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BIRD STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION ON THE FORT PIERRE NATIONAL GRASSLAND: 2016



By Dan Svingen, Ruben Mares, and Carol Erickson





Cover Photo:

Displaying Greater Prairie-chicken. Photo by Bob Gress.

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SUMMARY CHECKLIST

- A -abundant: daily peaks of 125 or more, with at least 600 individuals seen per season.
 C -common: daily peaks of 25-124, with seasonal totals of 125-599 individuals.
 F -fairly common: daily peaks of 5-24 individuals; seasonal totals of 25-124 individuals.
 U -uncommon: daily peaks of 0-4 individuals; seasonal totals of 5-24 individuals.
 R -rare: daily peaks of 0-4 individuals; seasonal totals of 0-4 individuals.
 O -casual: fewer than 5 records, will probably occur again in the next decade.
 X -accidental: fewer than 5 records, will probably not occur again in the next decade.
 E -extirpated: species no longer occurs in the checklist area.
 I -irregular: abundance varies; some years species is absent, in others it reaches level indicated.
 N -nester: breeding confirmed by observation of nest, food- or nest material-carrying adult, or dependent young.
 ? -status indicated has yet to be confirmed.

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
WATERFOWL					
Greater White-fronted Goose	U, I		U, I	O	
Snow Goose	A, I	O	A, I	O	
Ross's Goose	F, I		F, I		
Cackling Goose	C, I		C, I	U, I	
Canada Goose N	A	F	A	A, I	
Trumpeter Swan			X		
Tundra Swan			X		
Wood Duck	U	U	U		
Gadwall N	C	C	C		
American Wigeon N	F	F	F		
Mallard N	A	A	A	A, I	
Blue-winged Teal N	A	A	A		
Cinnamon Teal N	O	X			
Northern Shoveler N	C	F	C		
Northern Pintail N	C	F	C		
Green-winged Teal N	C	U	U		
Canvasback N	F	R, I	F		
Redhead N	F	R, I	F		
Ring-necked Duck	F		F		
Greater Scaup	U		R, I		
Lesser Scaup	F	R	F		
Bufflehead	U		U		
Common Goldeneye	U		R, I		
Hooded Merganser	R	O	R	X	
Common Merganser	F				
Ruddy Duck N	F	U	F		

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
GAMEBIRDS					
Gray Partridge N	E	E	E	E, X	
Ring-necked Pheasant N	C	C	C	C	
Sharp-tailed Grouse N	F	F	F	F	
Greater Prairie-Chicken N	C	C	C	C	
Wild Turkey				O	
LOONS/GREBES					
Pied-billed Grebe N	F	F	F		
Horned Grebe	O				
Eared Grebe N	U	R, I	U		
Western Grebe	R	O	R		
Clark's Grebe	O				
CORMORANT/PELICAN					
Double-crested Cormorant	F	U	F		
American White Pelican	U	R	U, I		
HERONS/EGRETS					
American Bittern N	U, I	U, I	U, I		
Great Blue Heron	U	U	U		
Great Egret	O	O	O		
Cattle Egret	O		O		
Green Heron	O				
Black-crowned Night-Heron	R	R	R		
White-faced Ibis	O	O	O		
VULTURE					
Turkey Vulture N?	U	U	U		
HAWKS					
Osprey			R		
Bald Eagle	U	O	U	F	
Northern Harrier N	F	U	F	U, I	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U		
Cooper's Hawk	U		U	O	
Northern Goshawk				O	
Broad-winged Hawk	O		O		
Swainson's Hawk N	F	U	F		
Red-tailed Hawk N	F	U	F	U	
Ferruginous Hawk N	R	R, I	R	U	
Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	F, I	
Golden Eagle N	U	O	U	U	

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
RAILS/CRANES					
Virginia Rail N?	R	R	R		
Sora N	R	R	R		
American Coot N	C	C	C		
Sandhill Crane	F		F		
Whooping Crane	O		O		
SHOREBIRDS					
American Avocet N	U	U	U		
Black-bellied Plover	O				
American Golden Plover			O		
Semipalmated Plover	R				
Killdeer N	C	C	C		
Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Solitary Sandpiper	R		R		
Greater Yellowlegs	U	U	U		
Willet	O				
Lesser Yellowlegs	F	U	F		
Upland Sandpiper N	F	F	F		
Whimbrel			X		
Long-billed Curlew N?	R	R	R		
Marbled Godwit N?	F	U	R		
Stilt Sandpiper	U	R	U		
Baird's Sandpiper	C	C	C		
Least Sandpiper	F	F	F		
White-rumped Sandpiper	U, I	U, I			
Buff-breasted Sandpiper			O		
Pectoral Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Semipalmated Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Long-billed Dowitcher	U	U	U		
Wilson's Snipe N?	U	R	U		
Wilson's Phalarope N	U	U	U		
GULLS/TERNS					
Franklin's Gull	C	U, I	C		
Ring-billed Gull	F	U	F		
California Gull	U	R	U		
Black Tern N?	U	R, I	U		
Common Tern	X				
Forster's Tern	R	O	R		
DOVES/CUCKOOS					
Rock Pigeon N?	U	U	U	U	
Eurasian Collared-Dove N?	U	U	U	U	

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
Mourning Dove N	A	A	A	O	
CUCKOOS					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	X				
Black-billed Cuckoo			X		
OWLS					
Barn Owl	O		O		
Eastern Screech-Owl			O	O	
Great Horned Owl N	U	U	U	U	
Snowy Owl	R, I		R, I	R, I	
Burrowing Owl N	F	F	F		
Long-eared Owl	O	O			
Short-eared Owl N	U, I	U, I	U, I	U, I	
Northern Saw-whet Owl			O		
NIGHTJARS					
Common Nighthawk N?	R	R	R		
HUMMINGBIRD/KINGFISHER					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird			O		
Belted Kingfisher	R		R		
WOODPECKERS					
Lewis's Woodpecker	X				
Red-headed Woodpecker N	U, I	U, I	U, I		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			O		
Downy Woodpecker N?	R	R	R	R	
Hairy Woodpecker N?	R	R	R	R	
Northern Flicker N?	F	R	F	R	
FALCONS					
American Kestrel N	U	R	F		
Merlin	R	O	U	R	
Gyr Falcon	R, I		R, I	R, I	
Peregrine Falcon	R		R	O	
Prairie Falcon	R	R	R	R	
FLYCATCHERS					
Olive-sided Flycatcher			O		
Eastern Wood-Pewee	O				
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		X			
Willow Flycatcher N	U	U	U		
Least Flycatcher	U		U		

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
Say's Phoebe N	U	R	U		
Western Kingbird N	C	C	C		
Eastern Kingbird N	C	C	C		
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher		X	X		
SHRIKES					
Loggerhead Shrike N	R	R	R		
Northern Shrike	U, I		U, I	U, I	
VIREOS					
Bell's Vireo N?	U	R	U		
Blue-headed Vireo			O		
Warbling Vireo N?	U	R	U		
Philadelphia Vireo	X				
Red-eyed Vireo	R		R		
CORVIDS					
Blue Jay	U		U	O	
American Crow	U		U		
Common Raven			X		
LARK/SWALLOWS					
Horned Lark N	A	C	A	A, I	
Tree Swallow N	F	U	F		
Northern Rough-w. Swallow N	U	U	U		
Bank Swallow	U		U		
Cliff Swallow	F	R	F		
Barn Swallow N	C	C	C		
CHICKADEE & ALLIES					
Black-capped Chickadee	O			O	
Red-breasted Nuthatch			O		
WRENS/KINGLETS					
Rock Wren	O				
House Wren N	F	U	F		
Winter Wren			O		
Sedge Wren	O	O	O		
Marsh Wren N?	R	R	R		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		U		
THRUSHES/MIMICS					
Eastern Bluebird	R		R		
Mountain Bluebird	O				

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
Townsend's Solitaire				O	
Veery	X	X			
Gray-cheeked Thrush	R				
Swainson's Thrush	U		R		
Hermit Thrush	O		O		
American Robin N?	F	U	F	C, I	
Gray Catbird	U		U		
Brown Thrasher N	F	F	F	X	
Sage Thrasher	X				
Northern Mockingbird	O	O	X		
STARLING/PIPITS					
European Starling N	C	C	C	U, I	
American Pipit	U		U		
Sprague's Pipit	R	E	R		
WAXWINGS					
Cedar Waxwing	U	O	U	C, I	
LONGSPURS					
Lapland Longspur	F		F	A, I	
Chestnut-collared Longspur N	F	U	F		
McCown's Longspur	X				
Snow Bunting	R, I		R, I	A, I	
WARBLERS					
Ovenbird	O		O		
Northern Waterthrush	R		R		
Black-and-White Warbler	O		O		
Tennessee Warbler	U		R		
Orange-crowned Warbler	F		F		
Common Yellowthroat N	F	F	F		
American Redstart	R		R		
Magnolia Warbler	O				
Yellow Warbler N	F	U	F		
Chestnut-sided Warbler			O		
Blackpoll Warbler	F				
Palm Warbler	O		O		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Wilson's Warbler	R		U		
Yellow-breasted Chat	R		O		
SPARROWS					
Spotted Towhee N?	U	R	U		

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
American Tree Sparrow	F		F	R, I	
Chipping Sparrow N?	F	U	F		
Clay-colored Sparrow	F	O	U		
Field Sparrow	U		U		
Vesper Sparrow	F	R	F		
Lark Sparrow N?	U	R	U		
Lark Bunting N	C, I	C, I	C, I		
Savannah Sparrow	F		F		
Grasshopper Sparrow N	A	A	A		
Baird's Sparrow	O	E			
Henslow's Sparrow	X	X			
Fox Sparrow	O		O		
Song Sparrow	U		U		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow			O		
White-throated Sparrow	U		R		
Harris's Sparrow	F		F		
White-crowned Sparrow	C		C		
Dark-eyed Junco	F		F	U, I	
TANAGERS					
Western Tanager		X			
GROSBEAKS					
Northern Cardinal	O		O	O	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	R				
Black-headed Grosbeak	O				
Blue Grosbeak N?	R	R	O		
Lazuli Bunting	O		O		
Indigo Bunting	O	O			
Dickcissel N	C, I	C, I	C, I		
BLACKBIRDS/ORIOLES					
Bobolink N	C	C	U		
Red-winged Blackbird N	A	A	A	R, I	
Western Meadowlark N	A	A	A	O	
Yellow-headed Blackbird N	C	F	F		
Rusty Blackbird			O	O	
Brewer's Blackbird	U		U		
Common Grackle N	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird N	A	A	A		
Orchard Oriole N	C	C	U		
Baltimore Oriole N?	U	R	U		

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	√
FINCHES					
Gray-crowned Rosy-finch			X		
House Finch N?	U	U	U	U	
Common Redpoll	U, I		U, I	U, I	
Hoary Redpoll				O	
Pine Siskin			O		
American Goldfinch N	F	U	F	U, I	
OLD WORLD SPARROWS					
House Sparrow N	C	C	C	C	

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Forest Service's Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands manages five Ranger Districts in Nebraska and South Dakota. One of those is the Fort Pierre Ranger District (Figures 1-3), headquartered in Fort Pierre, South Dakota.

The Fort Pierre Ranger District administers the Fort Pierre National Grassland. That National Grassland encompasses about 116,000 acres of National Forest System land in Jones, Lyman, and Stanley counties, South Dakota.

The purpose of this book is to summarize the status and distribution of birds on and near the Fort Pierre National Grassland as an aid to both visitors and managers.

THE CHECKLIST AREA

This checklist pertains to the entire 340,000-acre landscape within the administrative boundary of the Fort Pierre National Grassland. Less than one-half of that acreage is National Forest System land. The bulk of the data reported in this checklist is based on field work conducted on National Forest System land. The bird status and distribution reported herein may be slightly different, therefore, on the other landownerships within the checklist area.

By law, National Forest System lands are managed for multiple uses, including, but not limited to: livestock grazing, recreation, soil and water protection, and wildlife conservation. The most visible land use on the Fort Pierre National Grassland is livestock grazing. Each year, about 9,000 cattle graze the National Forest System land within the checklist area.

Private lands within the checklist area are managed primarily for agricultural purposes, especially livestock grazing and corn, hay, small grain (wheat, sorghum, etc.), and sunflower production. Tribal lands are mostly managed for livestock grazing. State School Lands are managed for livestock grazing and crop production.

Figure 1. The checklist area (northwest portion). Green=National Forest System land, white = private land, pink =South Dakota State School lands, FS=Forest Service. 1/2"=1 mile.

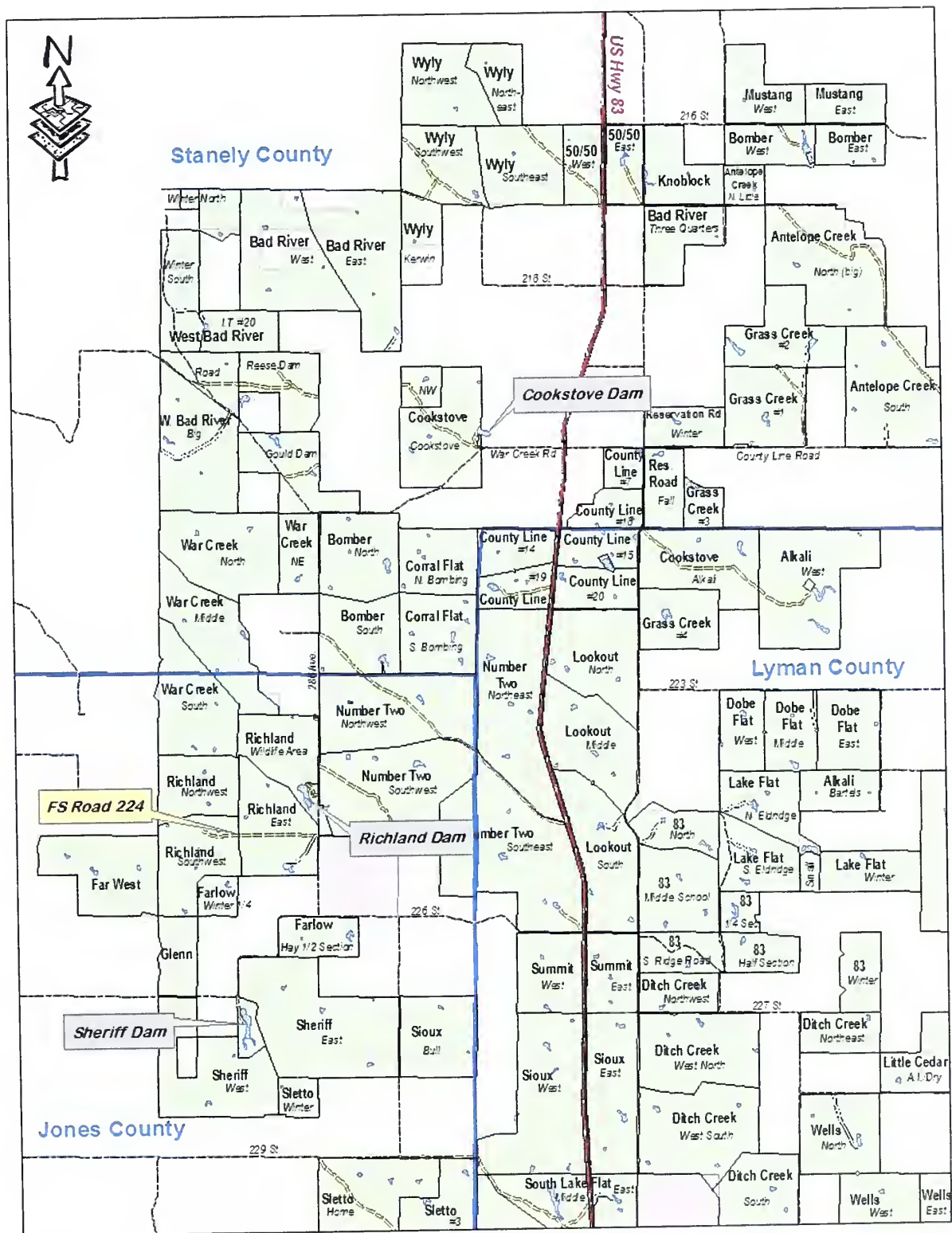


Figure 2. The checklist area (northeast portion). Green=National Forest System land, white = private land, pink =South Dakota State School lands, yellow=Lower Brule Indian Reservation, FS=Forest Service. $\frac{1}{2}$ "=1 mile.

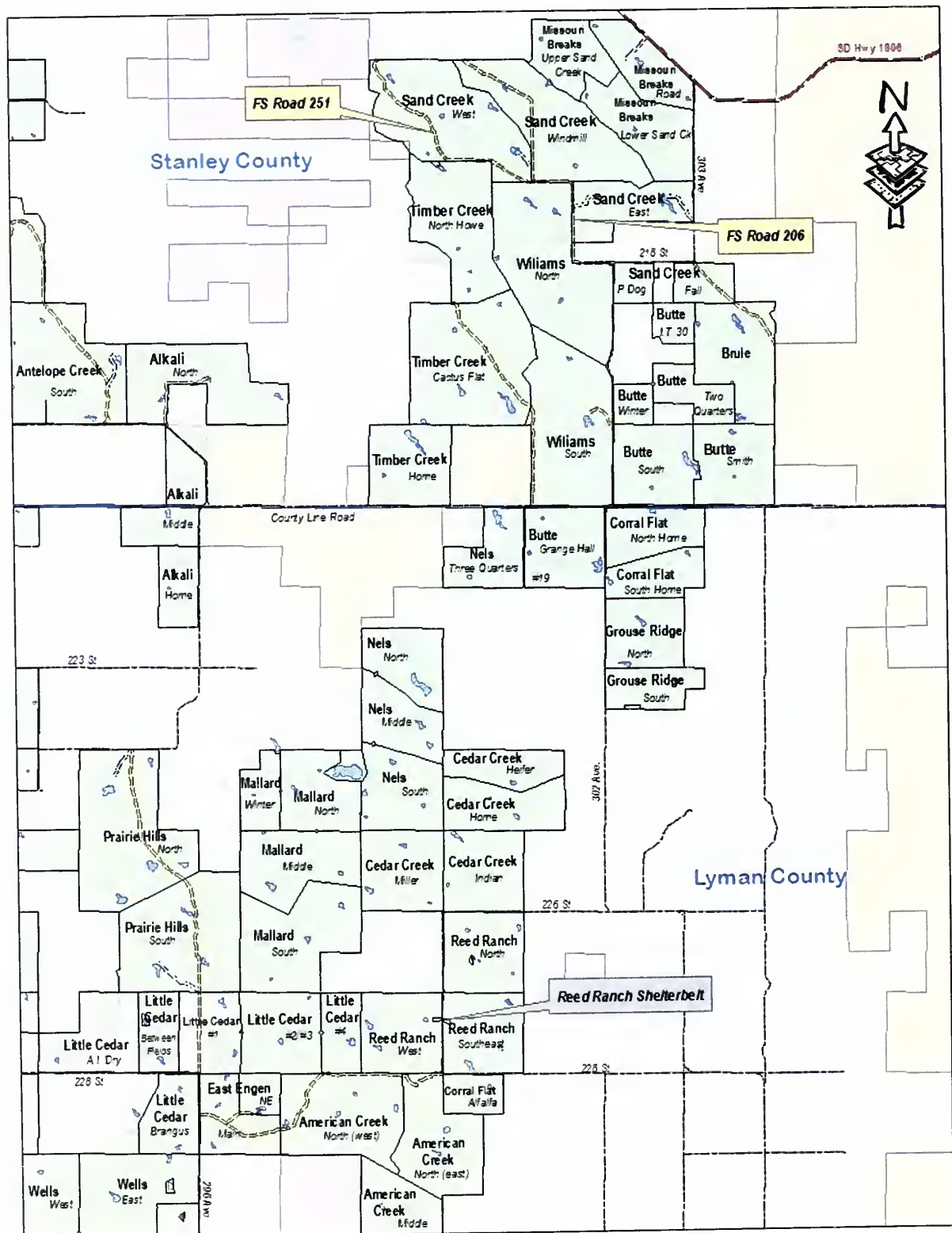
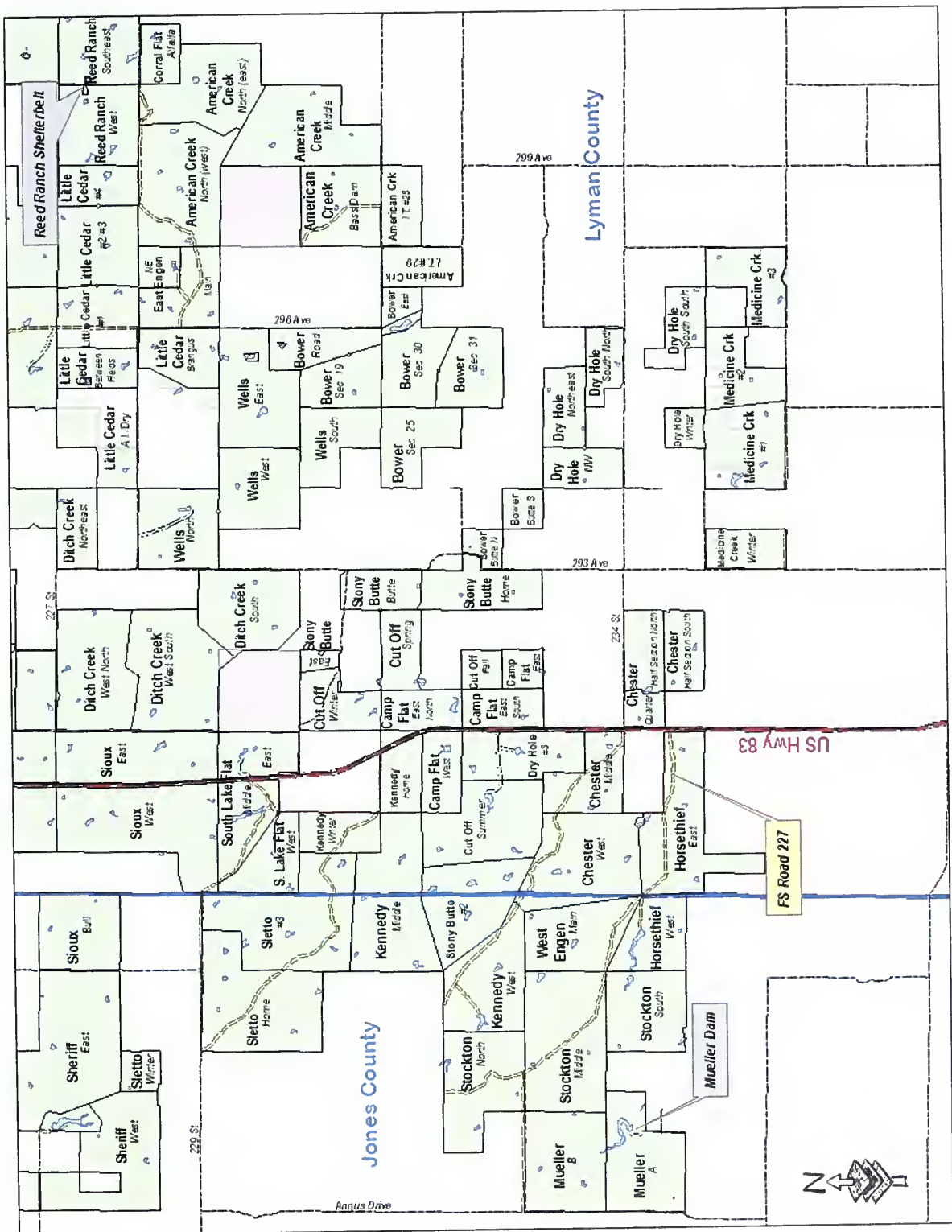


Figure 3. The checklist area (southern portion). Green=National Forest System land, white = private land, pink =South Dakota State School lands, FS=Forest Service. $\frac{1}{2}$ "=1 mile.



VISITING THE CHECKLIST AREA

Unless you have landowner permission to do otherwise, please restrict your birding to public roadways when birding outside of public land. Because of the complicated mix of private and public ownerships, it is useful to have a Grasslands Visitor Map to help ensure that you do not trespass on private land. Those maps are available for purchase (currently \$10) at the Fort Pierre Ranger District office (Figure 4), 1020 N. Deadwood St., Ft. Pierre, SD 57532. Phone (605) 224-5517. Email: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/nebraska>.

There are no developed recreational facilities in the checklist area. Richland Dam and Sheriff Dam are the most popular sites on the Fort Pierre National Grassland for dispersed camping. Food, fuel, and camping are available in Ft. Pierre, Pierre, and Vivian, SD. Motels are abundant in Ft. Pierre and Pierre. Medical clinics are available in Pierre.

Public walking access is allowed on all National Forest System land in the checklist area. Off-road vehicle travel is prohibited, but all paved, graveled, and designated two-track roads are open to the public (the Fort Pierre Ranger District office can inform you which two-tracks are designated for public use; see also the free "Motor Vehicle Use Maps").

During winter and early spring, you would be well-advised to restrict your driving to the main roads. If dry, the two-track roads (Figure 5) that bisect the National Forest Service lands can greatly aid your exploration. Be aware that use of the two-track roads requires a high-clearance vehicle. Driving on the two-track roads when they are wet will likely get your vehicle stuck in the Grassland's clay-rich soils. When entering or leaving a pasture, be sure to leave all gates as you found them (i.e. either open or closed). Please note that vehicle use may be banned even on designated two-track roads during periods of extreme fire danger.

The only poisonous animals in the checklist area are Western (Prairie) Rattlesnakes and Black Widow Spiders. Poison Ivy occurs throughout the checklist area. Chiggers, deer flies, horse flies, and mosquitoes can be annoying companions during summer birding trips, making insect repellent and a stiff breeze helpful. You will likely pick up Wood Ticks if you step off of the road in spring or early summer. It is a good idea to stop periodically and brush those hitchhikers off.

Figure 4. Fort Pierre Ranger District Office.



Figure 5. Two-track road on the Fort Pierre National Grassland.



HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Abbreviations:

Abbreviations used are defined as follows:

- CE = Carol Erickson, personal observation,
- Co. = County,
- CRP = Conservation Reserve Program,
- CBC = Pierre/Ft. Pierre Christmas Bird Count,
- DNS = Dan N. Svingen, personal observation,
- FPNG = Fort Pierre National Grassland,
- FSR = Forest Service Road
- m.ob. = many observers,
- pers. comm. = personal communication,
- RM = Ruben Mares, personal observation,
- SD = South Dakota,
- U.S. = United States.

Abundance and Status:

The abundance and status categories given below are based on the peak numbers that could be found during a full day (and season) of birding in appropriate habitat.

- A -abundant: daily peaks of 125 or more, with at least 600 individuals seen per season.
- C -common: daily peaks of 25-124, with seasonal totals of 125-599 individuals.
- F -fairly common: daily peaks of 5-24 individuals; seasonal totals of 25-124 individuals.
- U -uncommon: daily peaks of 0-4 individuals; seasonal totals of 5-24 individuals.
- R -rare: daily peaks of 0-4 individuals; seasonal totals of 1-4 individuals.
- O -casual: fewer than 5 records, will probably occur again in the next decade.
- X -accidental: fewer than 5 records, will probably not occur again in the next decade.
- E -extirpated: species no longer occurs in the checklist area.
- I -irregular: abundance varies; in some years the species may be absent, in others it may reach the level indicated.
- N -nester: breeding has been confirmed by observation of nest, nest material-carrying adult, dependent young, or food-carrying adult.
- ? -status indicated has yet to be confirmed.

We use the term "resident" for individual birds that are likely to be present throughout a summer or winter season. We use the term "visitor" to indicate individuals that are likely to be present for only a short time during a summer or winter season.

Locations:

Most locations referred to in the text are shown on Figures 1-3 or Figures 98, 99, 105, 108, 112, 116, or 119. See also Appendix 1.

Nesting Information:

In the following accounts we note which species have been confirmed as nesting birds in the checklist area. Breeding confirmation for several species was taken from Drilling (2014). Information presented on breeding phenology was taken from Peterson (1995) and Baicich and Harrison (1997). Visiting birders can assist with data collection by reporting observations of dependent young, food-carrying adults, nesting material-carrying adults, or active nests.

Nomenclature, Capitalization, Plurals, Etc.:

Bird nomenclature and species order follows that of American Ornithologists' Union (2015). We have adopted the convention of capitalizing proper names of plants and animals. We have retained the use of lower case when referring to a series or generic name. For example: we might say "Ducks, Yellow Warblers, and Lark, Savannah, and Field sparrows can be found here." In general, we use the plural tense when listing birds, unless we specify them as species. For example: we would write, "Yellow Warblers can be seen here. Winter species include Northern Shrike and Common Redpoll."

Seasons:

We have defined the seasons as shown below. Be aware that movements of birds, like weather patterns, do not fit into easy seasonal categories. For example, some shorebirds begin their "fall" migration in July, whereas Bald Eagles may not finish their "fall" migration until late December.

Spring: 1 March to 31 May

Summer: 1 June to 31 July

Fall: 1 August to 30 November

Winter: 1 December to 28/29 February

Species Treated:

We have included all bird species that have been confirmed within the checklist area. We collected sighting data by reviewing past issues (2000-2014) of *North American Birds*, interviewing birders, examining agency files, accessing eBird (<http://ebird.org/ebird/eBirdReports?cmd=Start>), and sorting through researcher's databases. Peterson (1995) and Tallman et al. (2002) were valuable references for earlier data.

HABITAT CATEGORIES:

For our purposes, we have grouped the checklist area's most common habitats into the following categories. These categories are general ones, and one habitat often blends into another. Category definitions are not meant to be definitive or technically precise.

Cropland

Cropland (Figure 6) is interspersed throughout the checklist area on private land. Common crops include: Corn, Grain Sorghum, Sunflower, Spring Wheat, and Winter Wheat. Greater Prairie-chickens, Horned Larks, Killdeers, Ring-necked Pheasants, and Sharp-tailed Grouse use cropland. After harvest, watch for raptors, particularly Red-tailed, Rough-legged, and Swainson's hawks. Waterfowl use this habitat too, as do Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings.

Hayfields and Idle Lands

You will encounter scattered hayfields (Figure 7) on private land throughout the checklist area. Domestic grass and forb species, such as Smooth Brome, Intermediate Wheatgrass, Alfalfa, and Yellow Sweetclover usually dominate.

In addition, some of the less productive cropland has been temporarily enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Under this program, the landowner plants a perennial grass cover, usually domestic grasses and forbs, and idles the land for 10 years in return for an annual payment from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Typical birds in hayfields and idled grass habitats include: Bobolinks, Common Yellowthroats, Dickcissels (irregular), Grasshopper Sparrows, Greater Prairie-chickens Northern Harriers, Red-winged Blackbirds, Ring-necked Pheasants, and Western Meadowlarks.

Figure 6. Cropland.



Figure 7. Hayland.



Mixed-grass Prairie

The checklist area's most abundant habitat is mixed-grass prairie (Figure 8). The most common plant species include: Big Bluestem, Blue Grama, Buffalo Grass, Carolina Foxtail, Crested Wheatgrass, Green Foxtail, Green Needlegrass, Inland Saltgrass, Kentucky Bluegrass, Little Bluestem, Marsh Muhly, Pale Spikerush, Porcupine Grass, Prairie Cordgrass, Red Three-awn, Sideoats Grama, Smooth Brome, Switchgrass, and Western Wheatgrass (Svingen et al. in prep). Breeding birds include: Bobolinks, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Chestnut-collared Longspurs, Dickcissels (irregular), Grasshopper Sparrows, Greater Prairie-chickens, Marbled Godwits, Ring-necked Pheasants, Sharp-tailed Grouse, and Upland Sandpipers. At sites occupied by Black-tailed Prairie Dogs, watch especially for Burrowing Owls, Ferruginous Hawks, Golden Eagles, Prairie Falcons, and Sprague's Pipits.

Figure 8. Mixed-grass prairie.



Wetlands

Wetlands are very limited in the checklist area. Stockponds (Figure 9) provide the most extensive habitat. Stockponds were built to provide livestock water, waterfowl habitat, and/or recreational fishing. The amount of emergent cover present varies by stockpond and/or year. Look on stockponds for: migrant and breeding (especially upland-nesting) waterfowl, Wilson's Phalaropes, and migrant shorebirds. Dugouts (Figure 10) are also found throughout the checklist area. Compared to stockponds, dugouts are smaller and have a lower proportion of their surface area in shallow water. As a consequence, they generally receive less avian use than do stockponds. Nevertheless, dugouts are used by species such as: Blue-winged Teal, Killdeer, and Mallard.

There are two main types of natural wetlands within the checklist area, which we refer to as: "playas" and seasonal emergent wetlands. Playas (Figure 11) are found on large flat plains. They are closed basins that are often dry, filling only when snowmelt or summer rains allow. When flooded, playas attract a wide variety of wetland-dependent species such as: American Bittern, Black Tern, Pied-billed Grebe, Red-winged Blackbird, Sora, Wilson's Phalarope, and Yellow-headed Blackbird. When dry, playas are still used by species such as: American Tree-sparrow, Bobolink, Dickcissal, Greater Prairie-chicken, Red-winged Blackbird, and Ring-necked Pheasant. Seasonal emergent wetlands (Figure 12) are found along drainage ways. They typically have well developed emergent vegetation, most often dominated by species such as bulrushes, cattails, and/or Prairie Cordgrass. These sites are used by bird species such as American Bittern, Common Yellowthroat, Marsh Wren, Red-winged Blackbird, Sora, Virginia Rail, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Woodlands

Woodland habitat is also very limited in the checklist area. Small clumps of natural woodland (Figure 13) occur along wetland margins or in draws and drainages. Typical woody species include: Plains Cottonwoods, Chokecherry, Peachleaf Willow, Sandbar Willow, and Western Snowberry.

Planted woodland, mostly in the form of shelterbelts (Figure 14) can be found at a few scattered sites across the checklist area. Planted woodland habitat contains a variety of trees and shrubs, including: American Plum, Boxelder, Buffaloberry, Caragana, Red-cedar, Green Ash, Honey Locust, Plains Cottonwood, Ponderosa Pine, Russian Olive, Siberian Elm, and Tatarian Honeysuckle.

Both the natural and planted woodlands attract a variety of bird species, particularly during migration. In winter, look in these habitats for raptors and owls. Summering birds may include: Blue Grosbeaks, Brown Thrashers, Common Grackles, Eastern Kingbirds, House Wrens, Mourning Doves, Orchard Orioles, Red-tailed Hawks, Western Kingbirds, Willow Flycatchers, and Yellow Warblers.

Figure 9. Stockpond.



Figure 10. Dugout.

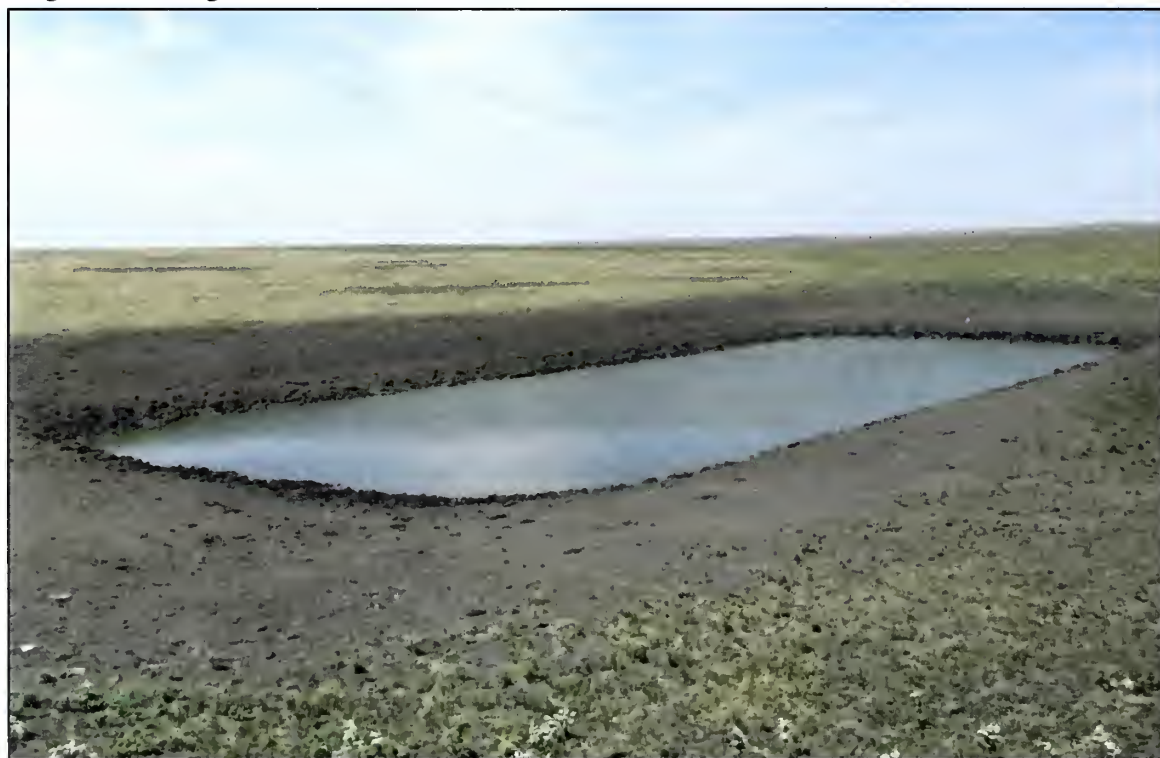


Figure 11. Playa.



Figure 12. Seasonal emergent wetland.



Figure 13. Natural woodland.



Figure 14. Planted woodland.



ANNOTATED CHECKLIST

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

(*Anser albifrons*)

Status: Uncommon but irregular spring and fall migrant, casual winter visitor.

Distribution: Look for Greater White-fronted Geese on large wetlands and in cropland.

High Counts: About 10 Greater White-fronted Geese were in Nels Three-Quarters Pasture in April 2011 (Ryan Cumbow pers. comm.).

Remarks: In Central SD, Greater White-fronted Geese (Figure 15) are most often found mixed with large flocks of Canada or Snow Geese. White-fronted migration peaks in April and from late September to late October. One or two Greater White-fronted Geese were heard with Canada Geese flying over Prairie Hills North Pasture on 10 February 2015 (DNS, Ryan Cumbow).

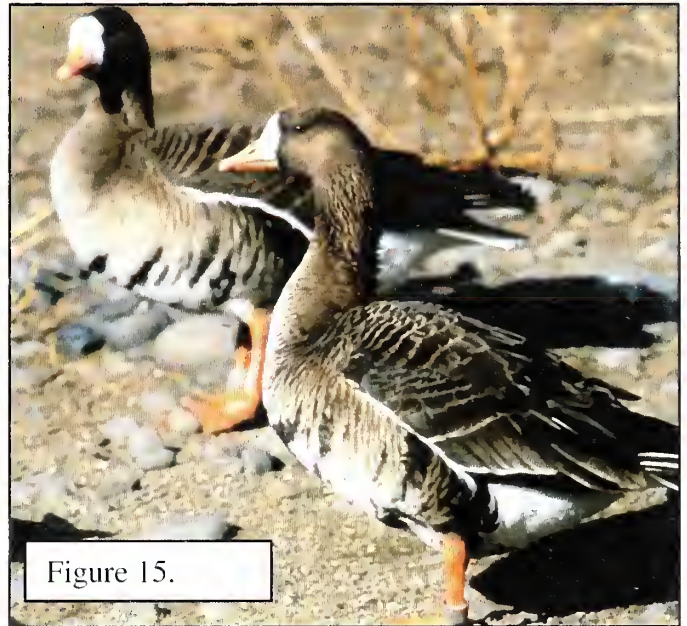


Figure 15.

SNOW GOOSE (*Chen caerulescens*)

Status: Abundant but irregular spring and fall migrant, casual summer and winter visitor.

Distribution: Snow Geese use cropland and large wetlands.

Remarks: Snow Goose migration peaks in April and again from late September to early November. A lingering spring bird was near Dry Hole Chester Pasture on 1 May 2014 (DNS, Ryan Cumbow). A “blue” Snow Goose was observed several times in the SW portion of the checklist area (for example at Booth Dam) in June 2010 or 2011 (Ryan Cumbow pers. comm.). Alan Van Norman reported a Snow Goose in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 5 January 2013 (eBird database).

ROSS’S GOOSE (*Chen rossii*)

Status: Fairly common but irregular spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: The distribution of the Ross’s Goose is the same as the Snow Goose.

High Counts: Approximately 40 Ross’s Geese were with the hundreds of Snow Geese passing over the Cookstove Shelterbelt on 10 November 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Look for this species in large flocks of Snow Geese. Peak migration periods for Ross’s Geese are April and October/November.

CAACKLING GOOSE

(*Branta hutchinsii*)

Status: Common but irregular spring and fall migrant, uncommon but irregular winter visitor.

Distribution: Cackling Geese use cropland and wetland habitats.

Remarks: Watch for this species in flocks of Canada Geese. Cackling Goose (Figure 16) migration peaks in April and October/November. Carey Cooper reported a relatively late Cackling Goose on 17 May 2014 in the Stanley County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland (eBird database).



Figure 16.

CANADA GOOSE

(*Branta canadensis*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant, fairly common summer resident, abundant but irregular winter visitor.

Distribution: Canada Geese use both cropland and wetlands.

Nesting Records: Nests and broods are found annually within the checklist area. For example, a brood with 6 goslings was at South Lake Flat Dam on 12 July 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Local numbers swell with migrants from mid-March to late April, and again from October to early November. Early April to mid-August is the peak of breeding. Wintering flocks centered in Pierre are occasionally seen flying over or feeding in the checklist area.

TRUMPTER SWAN (*Cygnus buccinator*)

Status: Accidental fall migrant.

Distribution: Trumpeter Swans use large reservoirs.

Remarks: The only local record for this species pertains to two birds seen at Nels North Pasture on 16 October 2014 (Ryan Cumbow pers. comm.).

TUNDRA SWAN (*Cygnus columbianus*)

Status: Accidental fall migrant.

Distribution: Trumpeter Swans use large reservoirs.

Remarks: The only local record for this species pertains to a bird verified by Doug Backlund in County Line #14 on 29 November 2009 (District Files).

WOOD DUCK (*Aix sponsa*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: Wood Ducks might be found in any seasonal or semipermanent wetland, but are most likely to be found at large reservoirs with shoreline trees.

High Counts: Four birds were at Sheriff Dam on 17 August 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Migration occurs in April, September, and October. Most summer records pertain to single male birds such as the 2014 birds at: Antelope Creek South Pasture on 22 June; Mueller Dam on 19 July; near Bad River Three-quarters on 8 August, and at War Creek Dam on 19 August (all sightings DNS).

GADWALL (*Anas strepera*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Gadwall can be found in all wetland habitats.

Nesting Records: Broods have been seen on many of the checklist area's stock ponds.

Remarks: Peak migration is from mid-April to mid-May, and again from September through October. Late May to late August is the peak of breeding.

AMERICAN WIGEON

(*Anas americana*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Like Gadwall, American Wigeon can be found in all wetland habitats.

Nesting Records: Broods have been seen on many of the checklist area's stock ponds.

Remarks: April and September to mid-October are the most active periods for American Wigeon (Figure 17) migration, whereas early June to mid-August is the peak of breeding.

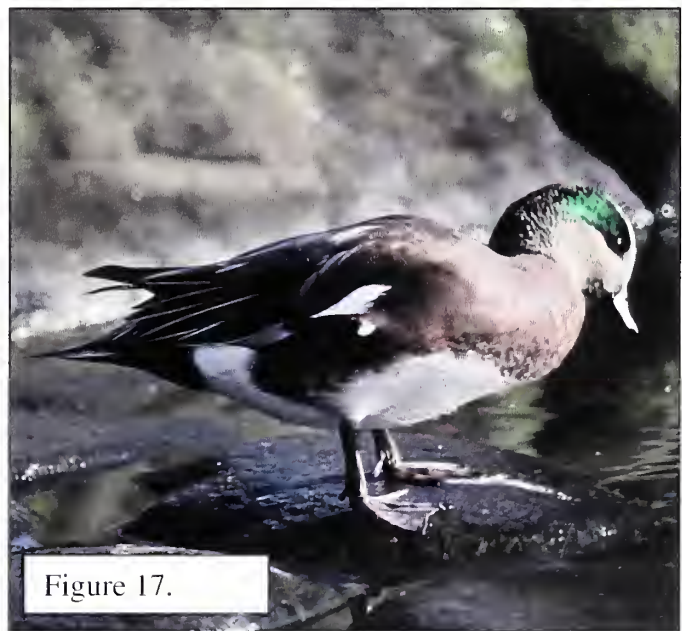


Figure 17.

MALLARD (*Anas platyrhynchos*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant and summer resident, abundant but irregular winter visitor.

Distribution: The adaptable Mallard can be found anywhere there is water. They are also regularly seen in cropland

Nesting Records: Nests and/or broods are seen annually in the checklist area.

Remarks: Spring migration runs from mid-March to early May; fall flights are most obvious in October and November. Late April to mid-August is the peak of breeding. Wintering flocks

centered in Pierre are occasionally seen flying over or feeding in the checklist area.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (*Anas discors*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: All wetland habitats are used by this species.

Nesting Records: Blue-winged Teal broods are noted annually in the checklist area.

Remarks: Blue-winged Teal (Figure 18) arrive in the second half of April, and depart by early October. Mid-May to mid-August is the peak of breeding.



CINNAMON TEAL (*Anas cyanoptera*)

Status: Casual spring migrant, accidental summer resident.

Distribution: Cinnamon and Blue-winged Teal use the same types of habitat.

Nesting Records: An adult female Cinnamon Teal and brood was observed at a wetland near Bad River Three-quarters Pasture on and after 19 June 2010 (Ricky Olson pers. comm.).

Remarks: A Cinnamon Teal pair was found at a wetland near Bad River Three-quarters Pasture on 23 May 2010 (Ricky Olson pers. comm.). The only other local record is of a male Cinnamon Teal reported from the Stanley County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 17 May 2014 (Carey Cooper, eBird database).

NORTHERN SHOVELER (*Anas clypeata*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant, fairly common summer resident.

Distribution: This species uses wetland habitats.

Nesting Records: Broods are seen annually in the checklist area.

Remarks: Peak movements are from mid-April to mid-May and again from September through October. Mid-May to mid-August is the peak of breeding.

NORTHERN PINTAIL (*Anas acuta*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant, fairly common summer resident.

Distribution: Northern Pintails use wetlands and cropland.

Nesting Records: Broods are seen annually in the checklist area.

High Counts: Forty Northern Pintails flew over Sheriff Dam on 1 September 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Migration occurs from mid-March to early May and from early October through

November. Breeding activities peak from early April to early August.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (*Anas crecca*)

Status: Common spring migrant, uncommon summer resident and fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses wetlands.

Nesting Records: Broods have been seen on many of the checklist area's stock ponds.

High Counts: Twenty Green-winged Teal (mostly males) were at the dugout in West Bad River Big Pasture on 22 June 2013 (DNS).

Remarks: April and October are important migration months. Breeding activity peaks from mid-May to mid-August.

CANVASBACK (*Aythya valisineria*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, rare but irregular summer resident.

Distribution: Canvasbacks favor semipermanent wetlands with moderate amounts of emergent cover such as cattails or bulrushes, and extensive beds of submergent vegetation. In the checklist area, they are most likely to be seen on the largest stockponds available.

Nesting Records: A Canvasback brood was found on the Fort Pierre National Grassland during waterfowl surveys in 1993 (District Wildlife Files).

Remarks: Canvasback (Figure 19) migration occurs in early April and from mid-September through October. Peak breeding activity is from mid-May to mid-August.

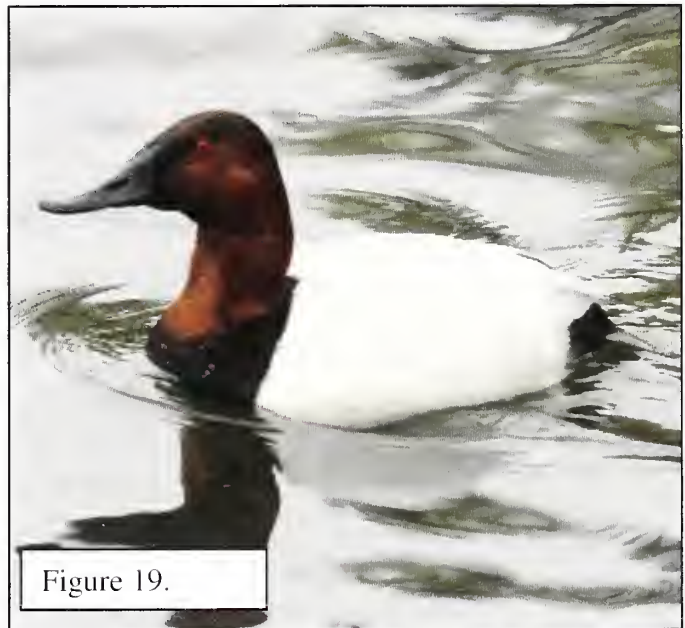


Figure 19.

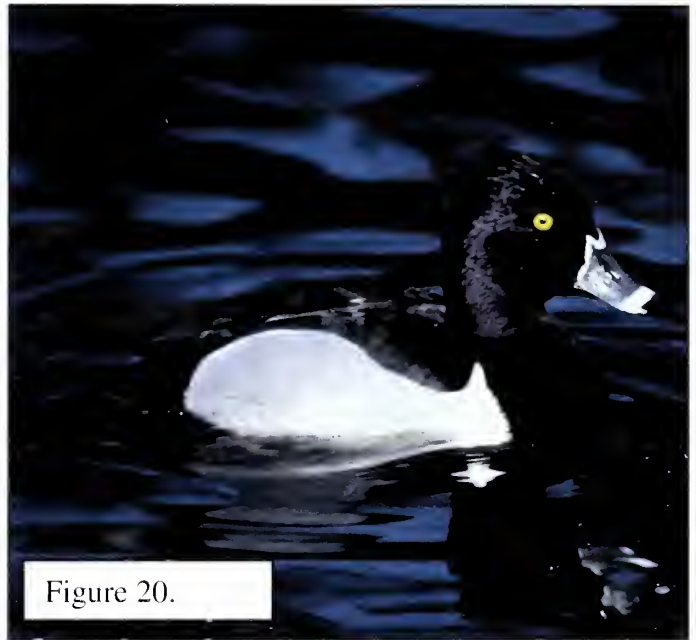
REDHEAD (*Aythya americana*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, rare but irregular summer resident.

Distribution: Redheads and Canvasbacks are often found using the same habitat.

Nesting Records: Two Redhead broods were found on the Fort Pierre National Grassland during waterfowl surveys in 1993 (District Wildlife Files); another was recorded in 1994 (ibid). A brood with 8 ducklings was at Mueller Dam on 19 July 2014 (DNS); a female with 6 young was in the Camp Flat East South Pasture on 25 August 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Early April and October are the periods of greatest abundance. Peak breeding activity occurs from early June to late August.

RING-NECKED DUCK*(Aythya collaris)***Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Look for Ring-necked Ducks in the same types of habitats used by Canvasbacks and Redheads.**High Counts:** Fifty Ring-necked Ducks were at Nels Dam in the Nels North Pasture on 1 October 2015 (DNS, RM, CE, Kelly Fuoss).**Remarks:** Ring-necked Duck (Figure 20) migration is most active from mid-March through April and during October. Two early birds were at Nels Dam on 23 September 2014 (DNS, Ryan Cumbow pers. obs.).**GREATER SCAUP** *(Aythya marila)***Status:** Uncommon spring migrant, rare but irregular fall migrant.**Distribution:** Look for Greater Scaup in the same habitats used by Canvasback.**Remarks:** Migrants pass through during April and again from October until freeze-up.**LESSER SCAUP** *(Aythya affinis)***Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, rare summer visitor.**Distribution:** Look for Lesser Scaup in the same habitats used by Canvasback.**Remarks:** Migrant numbers peak from April through early May, and again from October through early November. Three male Lesser Scaups were at Mueller Dam on 5 June 2014 (RM, DNS).**BUFFLEHEAD** *(Bucephala albeola)***Status:** Uncommon spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** This species uses the same kinds of habitat that are used by Canvasbacks.**Remarks:** Spring migration peaks in April; fall migration peaks in the second half of October.

COMMON GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala clangula*)

Status: Uncommon spring migrant, rare but irregular fall migrant.

Distribution: Common Goldeneye use the largest, deepest, least vegetated wetlands present.

Remarks: Migration occurs mostly from late March through early April and from mid-October through late November.

HOODED MERGANSER (*Lophodytes cucullatus*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant, casual summer visitor, accidental winter visitor.

Distribution: Hooded Merganser use wetlands.

Remarks: April and October are the peak migration months for Hooded Mergansers. A bird was in Medicine Creek #3 Pasture (on pond #832W06) on 28 March 2014 (RM); a female was near the Antelope Creek South Pasture on 1 June 2014 (DNS). Alan VanNorman reported 3 Hooded Mergansers in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 2 December 2010 (eBird database); Scott Stolz had 3 there on 8 April 2013 (eBird database).

COMMON MERGANSER (*Mergus merganser*)

Status: Fairly common spring migrant.

Distribution: Common Mergansers use the largest, deepest, least vegetated wetlands available.

Remarks: March through April is the local peak of spring migration for this species.

RUDDY DUCK (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident.

Distribution: Ruddy Ducks are most likely to be found on stockponds with sufficient growths of emergent vegetation, such as cattail or bulrush.

Nesting Records: Three Ruddy Duck broods were found on the Fort Pierre National Grassland during waterfowl surveys in 1993 (District Wildlife Files). A brood with 5 ducklings was at Mueller Dam on 19 July 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Early May is the peak of spring numbers for Ruddy Ducks (Figure 21), whereas fall numbers swell from mid-August to mid-October. Mid-June to late August is the peak of breeding. A late bird was in Camp Flat East North Pasture on 4 November 2014 (DNS).

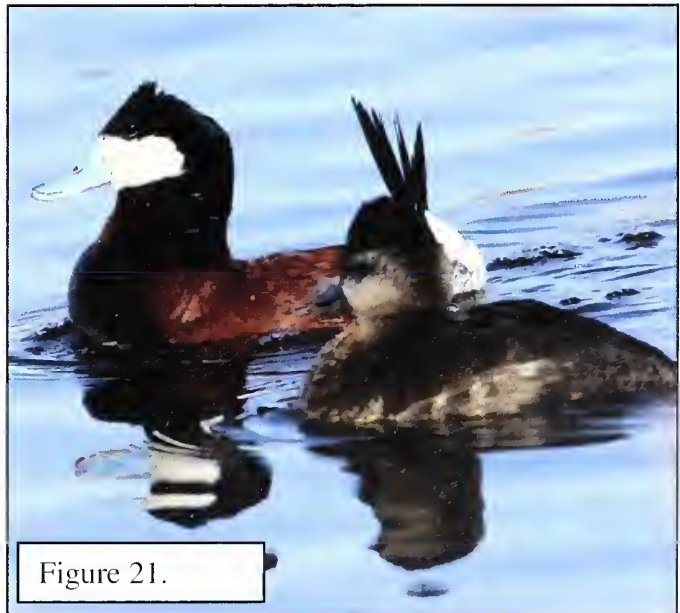


Figure 21.

GRAY PARTRIDGE (*Perdix perdix*)

Status: Extirpated year-round resident, accidental winter visitor.

Distribution: Gray Partridge use all open habitats; they are most often found in or adjacent to cropland, hayland, or idle grasslands. In winter, partridge are most likely to be seen near occupied farmsteads (especially where livestock were being fed) or in harvested grain or sunflower fields.

Nesting Records: A Gray Partridge brood with two young was found near the Dobe Flat North Pasture on 15 July 2006 (CE).

Remarks: Gray Partridge numbers fluctuate year-to-year. The species has not been reported in the checklist area in the last several years, with the exception of a single bird (Figure 22) photographed along Countyline Road near the Timber Creek Home Pasture on 22 January 2016 (Ryan Cumbow, CE, DNS). Late May to late August is the peak of the breeding season.

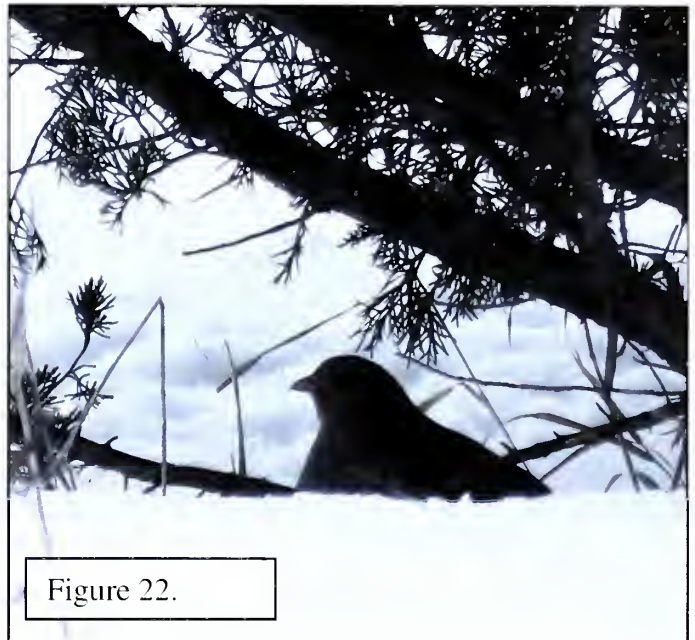


Figure 22.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT (*Phasianus colchicus*)

Status: Common year-round resident.

Distribution: Ring-necked Pheasants and Gray Partridge use similar habitats.

Nesting Records: Pheasant nests and/or broods are seen annually throughout the checklist area.

High Counts: Alan Van Norman reported 2,500 Ring-necked Pheasants in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 2 December 2010 (eBird database).

Remarks: Mid-May to mid-August is the peak of breeding. Males can be heard calling during the early morning hours, from April through June.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*)

Status: Fairly common year-round resident.

Distribution: Sharp-tailed Grouse are occasionally seen perched in isolated trees, and often roost or loaf in large shrub patches. They are most often encountered in or adjacent to cropland, hayland, idle grasslands or mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Nests and/or broods are annually found in the checklist area.

Remarks: Male Sharp-tailed Grouse (Figure 22) gather at leks to attract mates. Males can be observed on the leks from late March to mid-May, and again in mid-to late September. Peak activity is typically in the first 2 hours after dawn, during mid-to late April.

GREATER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN (*Tympanuchus cupido*)

Status: Common year-round resident.

Distribution: Greater Prairie-chickens are most often encountered in or adjacent to cropland, hayland, idle grasslands or mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Nests and/or broods are seen annually in the checklist area.

High Counts: On 3 December 2015, 500 birds were seen west of US 83, including 230 in a single flock near War Creek Dam (DNS).

Remarks: Male Greater Prairie-Chickens gather at leks to attract mates. Males can be observed on the leks from late March to mid-May, and again in mid-to late September. Peak activity is typically in the first 2 hours after dawn, during mid-to late April.

WILD TURKEY (*Meleagris gallopavo*)

Status: Casual winter visitor.

Distribution: Wild Turkeys use a variety of habitats, but are most likely to use woodland and cropland.

Remarks: Ryan Cumbow photographed a hen Wild Turkey (Figure 23) on private land adjacent to the Knobbloch Pasture on 16 January 2015. He had previously found Wild Turkey tracks, scat, and feathers at Smith Dam on an unspecified date. Dan Svingen photographed a Wild Turkey adjacent to Bomber West Pasture on 19 December 2015; the bird was subsequently seen nearby through the winter.



Figure 23.

PIED-BILLED GREBE

(*Podilymbus podiceps*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Pied-billed Grebes use large stockponds, especially those that have an extensive (33%-66%) coverage of cattails and bulrush.

Nesting Records: A Pied-billed Grebe nest with 7 eggs was on Mallard Dam on 30 June 1987 (District Wildlife Files). Ruben Mares photographed an active nest (Figure 24) in the Chester ½ Section North Pasture on 19 June 2014. Broods are annually noted in the checklist area; for example, a



Figure 24.

dependent chick and attending parent were on Mueller Dam on 19 July 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Pied-billed Grebes typically arrive in mid-April, with most birds departing by mid-October. Six lingering birds on 12 November 2014 were trapped by ice near the Dry Hole Chester Pasture (DNS).

HORNED GREBE (*Podiceps auritus*)

Status: Casual spring migrant.

Distribution: Look for Horned Grebes on large reservoirs.

Remarks: Spring migration is active in April. The only local records are of a bird found by Scott Stolz in the Lyman County portion of the checklist area on 8 April 2013 (eBird database) and of 10 birds at Mueller Dam on 17 April 2014 (RM).

EARED GREBE (*Podiceps nigricollis*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare but irregular summer resident.

Distribution: Look for Eared Grebes on large reservoirs with open water and extensive beds of submergent vegetation.

Nesting Records: An Eared Grebe was seen siting atop a nest on Mueller Dam on 19 July 2014 (DNS).

High Counts: Six Eared Grebes were at Mueller Dam on 11 July 2014 (RM, DNS).

Remarks: Migrants are most numerous from mid-April to mid-May, and again during September and October.

WESTERN GREBE

(*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, casual summer resident.

Distribution: Western Grebes prefer stockponds with at least some emergent vegetation, such as cattails or bulrush.

High Counts: Three birds were at Upper Booth Dam on 27 April 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Spring migration peaks from mid-April to mid-May, whereas fall migration peaks during October. Dan Svingen photographed a bird (Figure 25) at Reed Ranch Dam on 29 April 2015. A bird was at Richland Dam on 2 July 2001 (CE). A lone bird was at Sheriff Dam from May through September 2015 (DNS).



CLARK'S GREBE*(Aechmophorus clarkii)***Status:** Casual spring migrant.**Distribution:** This species uses the same habitats frequented by Western Grebes.**Remarks:** The sole local record is of a bird photographed (Figure 26) by Dan Svingen at Monument Dam on 27 April 2015.**DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT***(Phalacrocorax auritus)***Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer visitor.**Distribution:** Double-crested Cormorants prefer large stockponds.**High Counts:** Forty Double-crested Cormorants were at Mueller Dam on 27 April 2015 (DNS).**Remarks:** This species typically arrives in early April and is then present through late October. A late bird was at Richland Dam on 12 November 2014 (DNS).**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN** (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)**Status:** Uncommon spring migrant, rare summer visitor, uncommon but irregular fall migrant.**Distribution:** In the checklist area, American White Pelicans are found on large stockponds or are seen flying overhead.**High Counts:** On 11 September 1997, Carol Erickson saw 200-300 American White Pelicans flying over the Brule Pasture. Sheriff Dam hosted 13 American White Pelicans on 20 June 2007 (CE).**Remarks:** Pelicans might be present anytime between early April and mid-September and are occasionally seen into early November. The latest record is of 3 birds at Richland Dam on 8 November 2007 (CE). Most summer birds are likely non-breeders, as no nearby nesting colonies are known. A single bird was at Mueller Reservoir on 19 July 2014 (DNS).

AMERICAN BITTERN (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)

Status: Uncommon but irregular spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: This species use the edges of seasonal and semipermanent wetlands with extensive stands of emergent vegetation.

Nesting Records: A fledgling American Bittern was found in the Butte South Pasture on 26 July 1994 (CE).

Remarks: During wet years, this species should be watched for from mid-April through early October, though it is most likely to be found from early May to late August. Mid-June to late July is the peak of the breeding season. For a list of past sightings, see Appendix 2.

GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: Great Blue Herons can be seen at wetlands throughout the checklist area.

High Counts: Five Great Blue Herons were in Ditch Creek West North Pasture on 18 April 2014 (RM, DNS).

Remarks: Great Blue Herons arrive in early April. Most depart during October. A late bird was in Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 8 November 2014 (DNS). This species nests just outside of the checklist area along both Medicine Creek and the Missouri River.

GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: Great Egrets use the same types of habitat that are used by Great Blue Herons.

Remarks: Great Egrets migrate in April, May, September, and October. Post-breeding dispersal occurs in July and August. Single Great Egrets were: in Reservation Road #18 Pasture on 5 June 2007 (CE), at Gould Dam on 21 June 1994 (CE), at Mueller Dam 16 September 2015 (DNS), at Grass Creek Dam on 17 September 2014 (Ryan Cumbow pers. comm.), and at South Lake Flat Dam on 8 October 2015 (DNS). Doug Backlund photographed two (Figure 27) of the four Great Egrets at Wyly Dam on 13 May 2014.

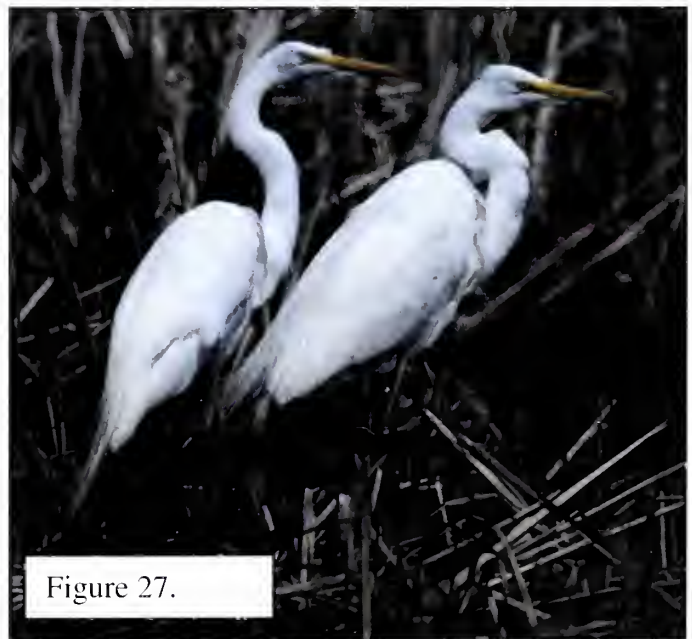


Figure 27.

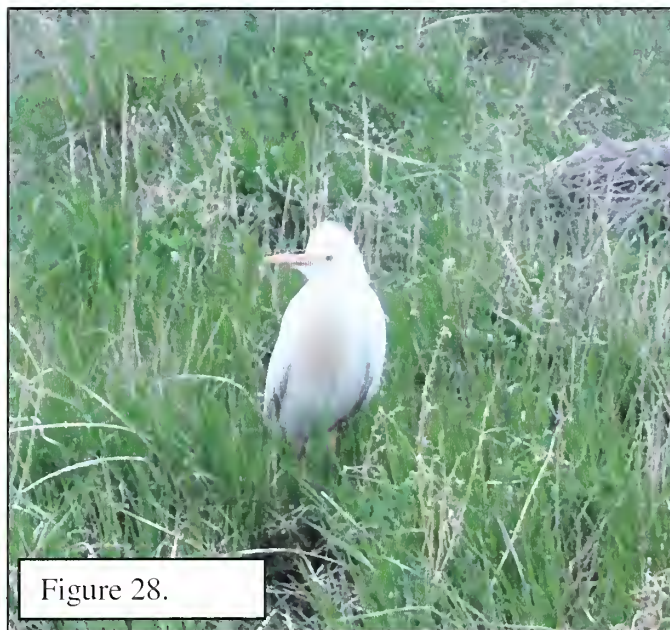
CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*)**Status:** Casual spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Cattle Egrets use mixed-grass prairie and wetlands.**High Counts:** Five Cattle Egrets were in the Sand Creek Prairie Dog Pasture on 15 May 1997 (CE). Four Cattle Egrets were near 50/50 East Pasture on 4 May 2014 (Ryan Cumbow and Tim Iron Thunder pers. comm.).**Remarks:** You are most likely to encounter this species during May. Julie Wheeler photographed a single bird (Figure 28) at Richland Dam on 4 May 2014; Doug Backlund photographed 3 of the four Cattle Egrets at American Dam on 20 May 2014. A single bird was seen north of Sheriff Dam on 15 May 2014 (Gary Marrone and Bruce Coonrod *fide* Doug Backlund). Three Cattle Egrets were by Kennedy Winter Pasture on 19 September 2015 (Doug Gordon, Tim Iron Thunder pers. comm.). This species often associates closely with livestock.

Figure 28.

GREEN HERON (*Butorides virescens*)**Status:** Casual spring migrant.**Distribution:** Green Herons use wetlands; in the checklist area, they are most likely to be seen along the treed edges of stockponds.**Remarks:** Watch for this species in May. The only local record to date is of a bird photographed (Figure 29) at Sheriff Dam by Doug Backlund on 19 May 2014.

Figure 29.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: This species prefers seasonal and semipermanant wetlands with extensive emergent vegetation.

High Counts: Four Black-crowned Night-herons were at Sheriff Dam on 7 June 2005 (CE) and at Nels Dam on 1 October 2015 (DNS, CE, RM).

Remarks: Migration peaks during the second half of April and during September and October. Additional recent sightings have included: 1 Black-crowned Night-heron in Reservation Road Winter Pasture on 27 May 2012 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database), and 1 at Mueller Dam on 5 June 2014 (RM, DNS) and 19 July 2014 (DNS), 2 at Alkali West Dam on 2 October 2006 (Ryan Cumbow pers. comm.).

WHITE-FACED IBIS (*Plegadis chihli*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: White-faced Ibises forage along margins of seasonal and semipermanent wetlands.

Remarks: Sightings include: 4 White-faced Ibises at War Creek Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS); 3 birds in the Jones County portion of the checklist area 23 July 2014 (Kevin Smith, eBird database), 1 bird in Reed Ranch West Pasture 5 September 2014 (Glenn Moravek pers. comm.), 1 bird in Corral Flat South Pasture on 28 September 2014 (CE); and 2 birds in Corral Flat South Pasture on 1 October 2014 (DNS).

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer resident or visitor.

Distribution: Turkey Vultures are seen in flight throughout the checklist area.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

High Counts: Twelve Turkey Vultures were in the Stanley County portion of the checklist area on 15 August 12 (Scott Stolz, eBird database).

Remarks: Look for Turkey Vultures (Figure 30) from early April through September. Stragglers are seen into early October. May to July is the likely peak of breeding activity.

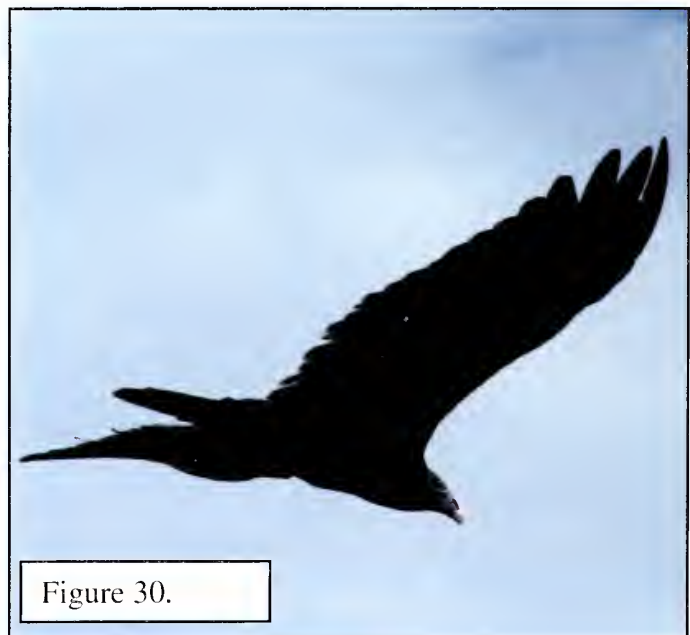


Figure 30.

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*)**Status:** Rare fall migrant.**Distribution:** Ospreys forage in large reservoirs.**Remarks:** Migrants are most often encountered from late April through early May and from late September through mid-October. Single Ospreys were at: Richland Dam on 10 and 11 September 2015 (Glenn Moravek, DNS respectively), Gould Dam on 15 September 2015 (Scott Stolz pers. comm.), Corral Flat North Home Pasture on 17 September 2010 (RM), Kennedy Home Pasture on 21 September 2013 (CE, RM), and Richland Dam from 9-17 October 2014 (DNS). Unusually early Ospreys were near Richland Dam on 21 August 2006 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.) and near Cookstove Dam on 26 August 2015 (Glenn Moravek pers. comm.). An unusually late Osprey was near Bower Allotment on 15 November 1994 (CE).**BALD EAGLE** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)**Status:** Uncommon spring and fall migrant, casual summer resident, fairly common winter resident.**Distribution:** Bald Eagles are seen throughout the checklist area.**Remarks:** Bald Eagle migration is most active in March and April, and from September through December. This species has nested just west, south, and east of the checklist area.**NORTHERN HARRIER**(*Circus cyaneus*)**Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident, uncommon but irregular winter resident or visitor.**Distribution:** Northern Harriers can be seen throughout the checklist area.**Nesting Records:** Carol Erickson photographed a Northern Harrier nest (Figure 31) in the Richland Wildlife Area on 1 July 2008.**High Counts:** Richard Latuchie found 11 Northern Harriers in the Stanley County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 1 January 2012 (eBird database).**Remarks:** Northern Harriers are regularly present from early March to late November. The peak breeding season is from early May to mid-July.

Figure 31.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (*Accipiter striatus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Sharp-shinned Hawks are most often seen in or near woodland.

High Counts: An adult and immature Sharp-shinned Hawk were at Sheriff Dam 9 October 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Sharp-shinned Hawks are most likely to be encountered in April, September, and October.

COOPER'S HAWK (*Accipiter cooperii*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, casual winter visitor.

Distribution: Cooper's Hawks and Sharp-shinned Hawks use similar habitats.

Remarks: Watch for Cooper's Hawks in April, September, and October. Alan Van Norman reported a Cooper's Hawk in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 10 December 2011 (eBird database).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK

(*Accipiter gentilis*)

Status: Casual winter visitor.

Distribution: Northern Goshawks use a variety of habitats in the checklist area, but are most likely to be seen in or near wooded habitat.

Remarks: This species (Figure 32) has been occasionally sighted during winter in the checklist area, particularly during irruptive years (Mike Erickson pers. comm.).



Figure 32.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK

(*Buteo platypterus*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Broad-winged Hawks can be seen overhead anywhere in the checklist area, but are most likely to be seen in or near wooded habitat.

Remarks: Peak migration periods through central South Dakota are mid-April to mid-May and mid to late September. On 4 May 2014, a Broad-winged Hawk was flushed from the trees at Sheriff Dam (DNS); the next day one was seen flying high overhead across the Reed Ranch Southeast Pasture (DNS). A very late adult flying over Williams Dam on 2 November 2014 was harassed by a Sharp-shinned Hawk (DNS).

SWAINSON'S HAWK (*Buteo swainsoni*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident.

Distribution: Swainson's Hawks nest in large trees and forage in open habitats, including cropland, hayland, idle grasslands, and mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Swainson's Hawk nests are found in the checklist area each year.

High Counts: On 30 September 2014, 151 Swainson's Hawks flew over Sheriff Dam in a 20-minute period; 112 of those birds were in a single kettle (DNS).

Remarks: Swainson's Hawks are present from mid-April to late-September. Mid-May to late July is the peak of breeding activity.

RED-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo jamaicensis*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer and winter resident.

Distribution: Red-tailed and Swainson's hawks use similar habitats.

Nesting Records: Red-tailed Hawk nests have been found numerous times in the checklist area.

High Counts: Alan Van Norman reported 8 Red-tailed Hawks in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 6 January 2013 (eBird database).

Remarks: "Eastern" Red-tailed Hawks can be seen yearlong, with "Krider's", "Western" and "Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawks appearing during migration (the former is very rare, but included a bird seen by Dan Svingen in Chester Quarter Pasture on 22 October 2014). Breeding activities are concentrated between late April and late July.

FERRUGINOUS HAWK

(*Buteo regalis*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant, rare but irregular summer resident, uncommon winter resident.

Distribution: Ferruginous Hawks use the same types of habitat favored by Red-tailed and Swainson's hawks. This species (Figure 33) is most often seen at or near prairie dog colonies.

Nesting Records: Numerous Ferruginous Hawk nests have been found within the checklist area. Recent nests include one in Lookout Middle Pasture on 11 July 2010 found by Scott Stolz (Drilling 2014), and another in the Prairie Hills North Pasture in April 2015 (RM).

High Counts: Terry Sohl reported 12-15 Ferruginous Hawks in and near the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 27 November 2011 (SD Bird ListServe archives). Alan Van Norman reported 15 Ferruginous Hawks in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National

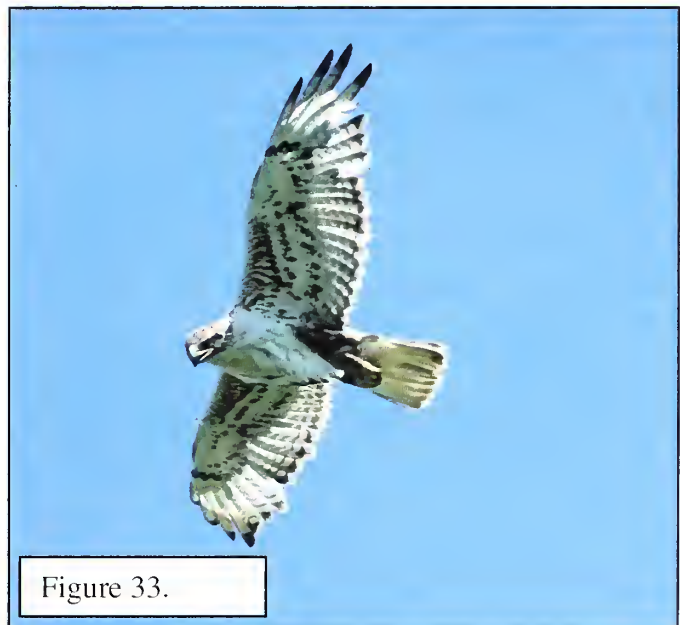


Figure 33.

Grassland on 6 January 2013 (eBird database).

Remarks: Ferruginous Hawks migrate in March, April, August, September, and October. Late April to early July is the peak of breeding activities.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK (*Buteo lagopus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, fairly common but irregular winter resident or visitor.

Distribution: Rough-legged Hawks forage in cropland, hayland, idle grasslands, and mixed-grass prairie. They also forage along wetland edges.

High Counts: Doug Backlund found 70 Rough-legged Hawks on 7 January 2009 during a winter raptor survey in the northeast portion of the checklist area.

Remarks: Rough-legged Hawks should be watched for from mid-October to early April.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and winter resident, casual summer resident.

Distribution: Golden Eagles can be encountered throughout the checklist area; they use a wide variety of habitats, including prairie dog colonies.

Nesting Records: In about 2000, Glenn Moravek (pers. comm.) found a Golden Eagle nest along the South Branch of Cedar Creek in the Mallard South Pasture; he suspects that the birds involved were among those released on the National Grassland by raptor rehabilitators.

High Counts: Terry Sohl reported 6 Golden Eagles on and near the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 27 November 2011 (SD Bird ListServe archives). Alan Van Norman reported 12 Golden Eagles in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 6 January 2013 (eBird database).

Remarks: Breeding activity peaks between March and June. Golden Eagles are most likely to be seen in the checklist area between October and late April.

VIRGINIA RAIL (*Rallus limicola*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Virginia Rails use wetlands with dense emergent vegetation.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local breeder.

Remarks: Virginia Rails typically arrive in early May and likely depart in September and October. The probable breeding season is late May to mid-August. A calling bird was at Sheriff Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS); others were in Alkali Alkali Pasture on 3 June 2014



Figure 34.

(RM, DNS) and near Bad River 3/4 Pasture on 26 July 2002 (CE, Julie Wheeler). Doug Backlund photographed one of two birds (Figure 34) at Sheriff Dam on 27 May 2014. Single birds were heard at the playa in Mueller A Pasture on 5 June 2014 and 11 July 2014 (RM, DNS). Two or three Virginia Rails were at Richland Dam on 22 June 2014 (DNS). The latest records are of single birds at Sheriff Dam 16 September 2015 (DNS) and 6 October 2015 (DNS), and in the Nels North Pasture on 16 October 2014 (Ryan Cumbow pers. comm.).

SORA (*Porzana carolina*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Soras and Virginia rails use similar habitats.

Nesting Records: The juvenile (Figure 35) photographed on 8 August 2014 at South Lake Flat Dam by Dan Svingen was considered evidence of local breeding.

Remarks: Soras arrive in early May and depart in late September. Peak breeding activities occur between June and August. Single Soras were at Richland Dam on 13 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.), 5 September 2015 (DNS), and 28 September 2004 (CE). Others were in at Bower Dam 25 May 1999 (CE), Wily Kerwin Pasture on 26 May 2014 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database), Alkali Home Pasture on 27 May 2015 (DNS), in Nels North Pasture on 1 June 2011 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database), Bower Section 30 Pasture on 15 August 1995 (CE), and at Cookstove Dam on 5 September 2015. Two Soras were calling at the playa in Mueller A Pasture on 5 June 2014 (RM, DNS). One calling bird was at Sheriff Dam 30 September 2015 (DNS); another was at South Lake Flat Dam on 6 October 2015 (DNS).



Figure 35.

AMERICAN COOT (*Fulica americana*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: American Coots use wetland habitats, particularly those with stands of emergent and submergent vegetation.

Nesting Records: American Coot nests and broods are found annually within the checklist area.

High Counts: Fifty American Coots were at Cookstove Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS); 1,003 American Coots were at Nels Dam on 1 October 2015 (RM, DNS, CE, Kelly Fuoss).

Remarks: American Coots arrive in mid-April and persist until mid-October. Early May to mid-August is the peak of the breeding season.

SANDHILL CRANE (*Grus canadensis*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Sandhill Cranes are most often detected as they fly overhead. Occasionally, birds can be seen on the ground at wetlands or feeding in cropland.

High Counts: Three hundred Sandhill Cranes were in Prairie Hills North Pasture on 19 April 1996 (CE); a similar-sized group was also by the Lake Flat Winter Pasture the same day (Glen Moravek, District Files). Eighty Sandhill Cranes flew over Cookstove Shelterbelt on 11 November 2014 (DNS). Two hundred and forty birds were in and near the Prairie Hills North Pasture on 10 April 2015 (DNS, Jim Pitts).

Remarks: Look for Sandhill Cranes from early April through early-May, and from late July through mid-October. On favored passage days, thousands of birds might be seen migrating through the checklist area.

WHOOPING CRANE (*Grus americana*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses cropland, grassland, and wetland habitats.

Remarks: A satellite-transmitter tagged bird used the Fort Pierre National Grassland in April 2014. For a listing of past sightings, see Appendix 2.

AMERICAN AVOCET

(*Recurvirostra americana*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: American Avocets use wetland habitats; in the checklist area they are most often seen at reservoirs.

Nesting Records: American Avocets with dependent young were repeatedly observed at a wetland near Bad River Three-quarters pasture in 2010 (Ricky Olson pers. comm.). Two chicks and an adult pair were at Mueller Dam on 11 July 2014 (RM, DNS).

Remarks: Avocets are typically present from mid-April through October. Mid-May to early July is the peak of the breeding season. Dan Svingen photographed an American Avocet (Figure 36) at Mueller Dam on 19 July 2014.

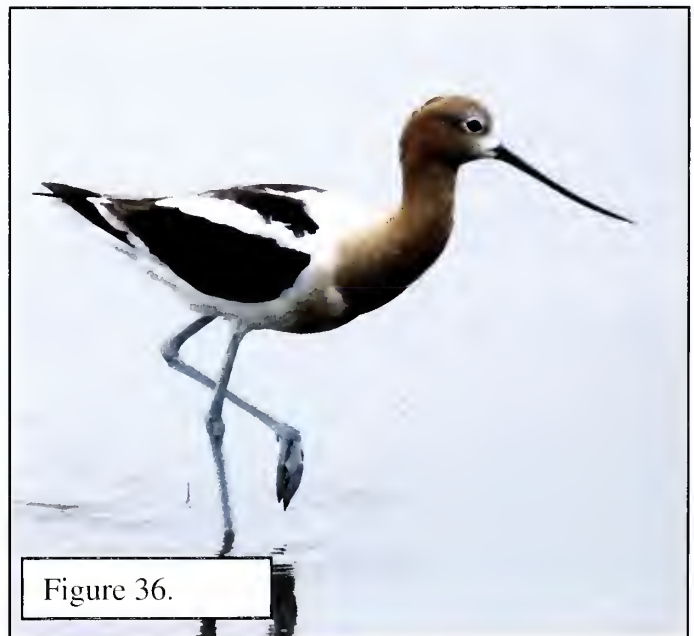


Figure 36.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

Status: Casual spring migrant.

Distribution: This species uses wetlands (especially those with wide mudflats), cropland (especially if fallowed or recently plowed), or grassland (especially if recently burned).

Remarks: This species passes through central South Dakota in May and again between late July through October. Ricky Olson (pers. comm.) has seen this species in the checklist area several times during spring, though exact dates are unknown. Some of those observations were near Bad River Three-Quarters Pasture. There are no known fall records from the checklist area.

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER (*Pluvialis dominica*)

Status: Casual fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses wetlands (especially those with wide mudflats), cropland (especially if fallowed or recently plowed), or grassland (especially if recently burned).

Remarks: This species passes through central South Dakota in May and again between late July through October. The only checklist area record is of 11 birds on recently burned cropland by Nels North Pasture on 23 September 2014 (Ryan Cumbow, DNS).

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER

(*Charadrius semipalmatus*)

Status: Rare spring migrant.

Distribution: This species is most likely to be seen along wetland edges with wide margins of mud.

High Counts: Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory staff recorded five Semipalmated Plovers on 17 May 2010 in Alkali Middle Pasture (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database). Deirdre Robinson reported 7 birds in the Lyman portion of the checklist area on 22 April 2005 (eBird database).

Remarks: Semipalmated Plovers (Figure 37) might be found in central South Dakota from mid-April through September.



Figure 37.

KILLDEER (*Charadrius vociferus*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Killdeer are most likely to be seen along wetland edges with wide margins of mud, but they are seen in a variety of habitats, including along roadsides and in cropland.

Nesting Records: Nests and broods are commonly seen in the checklist area each year.

High Counts: On 4 September 2014, 45 Killdeers were at Mueller Dam (DNS).

Remarks: Killdeers are early migrants and are sometimes seen as early as mid-March. A more typical arrival date is early April. Linger birds can be found into mid-October. Three late birds were at Williams Dam on 2 November 2014 (DNS). Early May to mid-July is the peak of breeding.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER (*Actitis macularius*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: Spotted Sandpipers use wetlands.

High Counts: Two Spotted Sandpipers were at Richland Dam on 12 May 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Spotted Sandpipers might be present anytime from mid-April to late September, but are most likely to be found from mid-April to mid-May and from mid-August through September.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER

(*Tringa solitaria*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Look for Solitary Sandpipers along wetland edges, especially those with flooded trees.

Remarks: Solitary Sandpipers are most likely to be encountered in early May, and from mid-July to mid-September, though we know of no summer records to date. Dan Svingen photographed single birds at Cottonwood Dam on 2 September 2014 (Figure 38) and Knoblock Dam on 12 August 2015. A bird was near the Cookstove Shelterbelt on 12 May 2015 (DNS).



Figure 38.

GREATER YELLOWLEGS (*Tringa melanoleuca*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: This species is found along shallow wetland edges, seeming to prefer sites with wide mud margins.

High Counts: Ten Greater Yellowlegs were at Mueller Dam on 11 July 2014 (RM, DNS).

Remarks: Watch for Greater Yellowlegs in April and early May, and again from mid-June into October. A relatively late spring bird was in the West Bad River Big Pasture on 24 May 2014 (DNS).

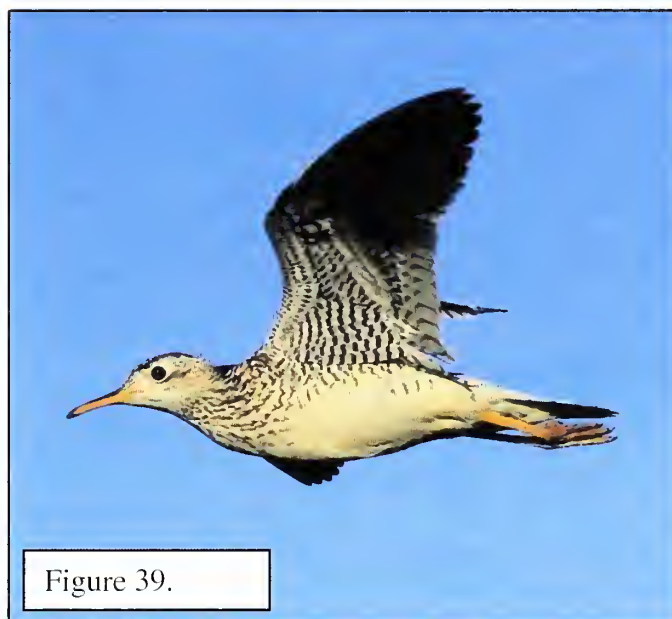
WILLET (*Tringa semipalmata*)**Status:** Casual spring migrant**Distribution:** Willets use both mixed-grass prairie and wetland habitats.**Remarks:** The only records regard single birds in: Alkali Middle Pasture on 17 May 2010 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database), Nels Three-Quarters Pasture on 23 April 2015 (DNS), and at Upper Booth Dam in Stockton South Pasture on 27 April 2015 (DNS).**LESSER YELLOWLEGS** (*Tringa flavipes*)**Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer visitor.**Distribution:** This species is found in the same kinds of habitats that are used by Greater Yellowlegs.**Remarks:** The Lesser Yellowlegs' seasonality is similar to that of the Greater Yellowlegs'.**UPLAND SANDPIPER**(*Bartramia longicauda*)**Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.**Distribution:** The Upland Sandpiper (Figure 39) uses mixed-grass prairie.**Nesting Records:** Nests and/or broods of this species are encountered in the checklist area on an annual basis.**High Counts:** Jennifer Rycenga found 60 Upland Sandpipers in the Lyman portion of the checklist area on 4 July 2006 (eBird database).**Remarks:** Upland Sandpipers may be encountered from early May to early August. Most breeding activities occur between late May and early July. A relatively early migrant was in Reed Ranch SE Pasture on 24 April 2015 (DNS). Relatively late migrants were at Mueller Dam on 27 August 2014 (DNS) and in Kennedy Winter Pasture on 3 September 2015 (Kelly Fuoss, DNS).

Figure 39.

WHIMBREL (*Numenius phaeopus*)**Status:** Accidental fall migrant.**Distribution:** This species should be looked for along wetland edges.**Remarks:** The sole record of Whimbrel from the checklist area is of a bird found on 7 September 1995 in Lake Flat South Eldridge Pasture (CE). The description reads, in part: "Godwit-sized, pale buff breast, color beginning at base of neck. Bill down-turned; uniformly dark. White strip thru crown bordered by dark bands above eye stripe. Wings noticeably darker

than tail or upperwing when folded. Very tame, acts out of place in road. Ate a beetle as I watched. Observed for 30 min.” (District Files).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW

(*Numenius americanus*)

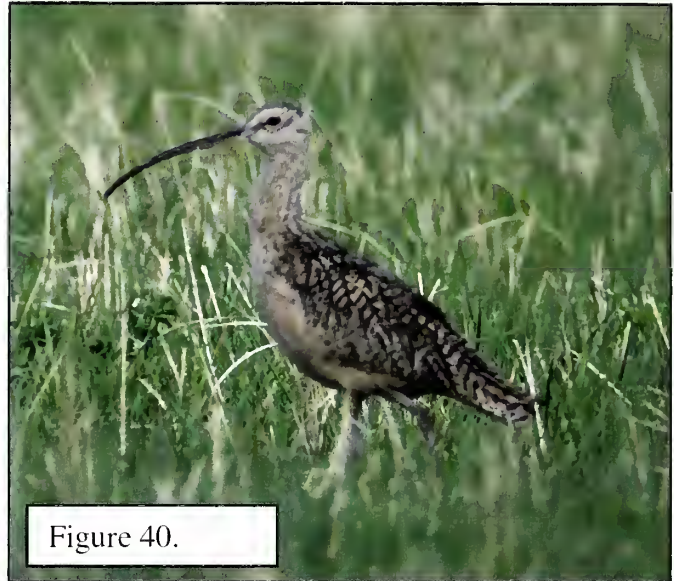
Status: Rare spring migrant and summer resident or visitor.

Distribution: Long-billed Curlew use closely-cropped mixed-grass prairie and sparsely vegetated cropland.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

High Counts: Doug Backlund (pers. comm.) saw five Long-billed Curlews in flight over the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 8 April 2007.

Remarks: Watch for Long-billed Curlews from April to mid-August; this species might nest in the checklist area, most likely on private rangeland. The likely peak breeding season is from late April to late June. Doug Backlund photographed a bird (Figure 40) near Richland Wildlife Area on 20 May 2014. For a listing of past sightings, see Appendix 2.



MARbled GODWIT (*Limosa fedoa*)

Status: Fairly common spring migrant, uncommon summer resident, rare fall migrant.

Distribution: Marbled Godwits use wetlands and adjacent uplands in mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

Remarks: Marbled Godwits might be present from mid-April to late August. The likely peak breeding season is from early May to late June.

STILT SANDPIPER (*Calidris himantopus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer visitor.

Distribution: This species is found along wetland edges.

High Counts: Corey Callaghan found 21 Stilt Sandpipers in the Jones County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 12 May 2012 (eBird database). Doug Backlund (pers. comm.) found 24 birds near the junction of Countyline Road and US Highway 83 on 17 May 2014.

Remarks: Peak migration for Stilt Sandpipers is in May and in late July, though they might be encountered for most of the period between late April and mid-October. A late spring migrant was near the junction of County Line Road and US Highway 83 on 4 June 2014 (DNS).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER*(Calidris bairdii)***Status:** Common spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.**Distribution:** This species is found along wetland edges as well as in the habitats used by Buff-breasted Sandpipers.**Remarks:** Baird's Sandpipers (Figure 41) might be encountered from mid-April through mid-October. Peak numbers occur in April/May and August/September.

Figure 41.

LEAST SANDPIPER*(Calidris minutilla)***Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.**Distribution:** Least Sandpipers use wetland edges.**High Counts:** Corey Callaghan (eBird database) found 41 Least Sandpipers in the Jones County portion of the checklist area on 12 May 2012.**Remarks:** This species might be encountered from mid-April through mid-October, but peak numbers occur in May and from mid-July to mid-September. A late spring migrant was near the junction of County Line Road and US Highway 83 on 31 May 2014 (DNS).**WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER** *(Calidris fuscicollis)***Status:** Uncommon but irregular spring migrant and summer visitor.**Distribution:** This species is found along wetland edges.**High Counts:** Sixty White-rumped Sandpipers were near the junction of County Line Road and US Highway 83 on 4 June 2014 (DNS).**Remarks:** Spring migrants pass through from early May into mid-June; peak numbers occur from mid-May to early June.**BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER** *(Calidris subruficollis)***Status:** Casual fall migrant.**Distribution:** This species should be looked for in mown hayland, fallowed cropland, on large mudflats, and in recently burned prairie.**Remarks:** Doug Backlund (pers. comm.) found a Buff-Breasted Sandpiper on burned prairie near Richland Dam on 23 September 2007.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER (*Calidris melanotos*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: This species is found along wetland edges.

High Counts: Doug Backlund (pers. comm.) found 18 Pectoral Sandpipers near the junction of Countyline Road and US Highway 83 on 17 May 2014.

Remarks: Pectoral Sandpipers can be encountered from mid-April through early November. Peak numbers occur from mid-April through May and from early August to mid-September. A late spring migrant was near the junction of County Line Road and US Highway 83 on 4 June 2014 (DNS).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER

(*Calidris pusilla*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: Semipalmated Sandpipers are found along wetland edges.

Remarks: Semipalmated Sandpipers (Figure 42) might be encountered from mid-April through late September, but peak numbers occur in late May and from mid-July to mid-August. A late spring migrant was near the junction of County Line Road and US Highway 83 on 4 June 2014 (DNS).



Figure 42.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: This species is found along wetland edges.

Remarks: Long-billed Dowitchers may be present for most of the late April to late October period. Peak numbers occur from mid-August to mid-October.

WILSON'S SNIPE (*Gallinago delicata*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident.

Distribution: Wilson's Snipe use wetland edges.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

Remarks: Wilson's Snipe may be present from April through late October. Late May to early July is the likely peak of the breeding season. Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory staff found a Wilson's Snipe in Alkali Middle Pasture on 17 May 2010. Winnowing birds were heard in both Alkali Alkali and Alkali Home Pastures on 3 June 2014 (DNS).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE

(*Phalaropus tricolor*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Wilson's Phalaropes use wetlands for foraging. They nest in adjacent mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Carol Erickson photographed a Wilson's Phalarope nest (Figure 43) in Cookstove Alkali Pasture on 30 May 1999.

Remarks: Wilson's Phalaropes are present from mid-April to mid-September. Late May to early July is the peak of the breeding season.



Figure 43.

FRANKLIN'S GULL

(*Leucophaeus pipixcan*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant, uncommon but irregular summer visitor.

Distribution: Franklin's Gulls use wetlands and cropland.

Remarks: Franklin's Gulls might be present in the checklist area from April through October, but are most likely in April and September.

RING-BILLED GULL (*Larus delawarensis*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer visitor.

Distribution: Ring-billed Gulls use wetlands and cropland.

High Counts: Mary Anne Romito found 61 Ring-billed Gulls in the Stanley County portion of the checklist area on 30 July 2014 (eBird database).

Remarks: Ring-billed Gulls may be present from late March until wetlands freeze in the fall.

CALIFORNIA GULL (*Larus californicus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer visitor.

Distribution: Look for California Gulls in the same habitats that are used by Ring-billed Gulls.

Remarks: California Gulls return to central South Dakota in late March, with most birds departing by late September.

BLACK TERN (*Chlidonias niger*)

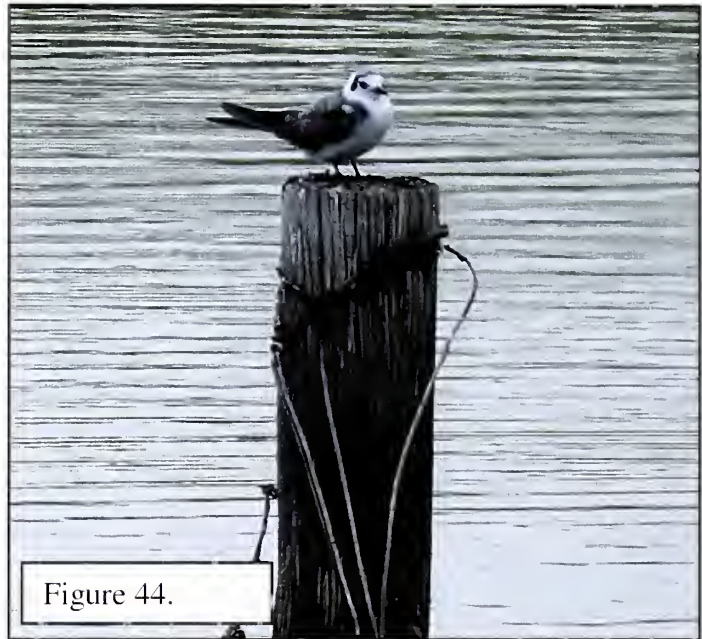
Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, uncommon but irregular summer resident.

Distribution: Black Terns use wetlands, especially large reservoirs with extensive stands of emergent vegetation.

Nesting Records: Local breeding has yet to be confirmed for this species.

High Counts: Ten Black Terns were in Mallard North Pasture on 25 May 1994 (Glenn Moravek, District Files) and at Mueller Dam on 27 August 2014 (Scott Stolz, Paul Baicich, DNS).

Remarks: Black Terns might be seen from late April to mid-September, with peak numbers occurring in late May and mid-July to mid-August. The peak of the breeding season is likely late May to early August. Dan Svingen photographed a first-summer bird (Figure 44) at Mueller Dam on 19 July 2014. For a list of past sightings, see Appendix 2.

**COMMON TERN** (*Sterna hirundo*)

Status: Accidental spring migrant.

Distribution: Common Terns are most likely to be seen at large reservoirs.

Remarks: The only record to date is a bird reported by Deirdre Robinson on 22 April 2005 in the Lyman County portion of the checklist area (eBird database).

FORSTER'S TERN (*Sterna forsteri*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant, casual summer visitor.

Distribution: Forster's Terns use wetlands, especially large reservoirs with extensive stands of emergent vegetation.

Remarks: Forster's Terns are most likely to be encountered in May, August, and September. A first-summer bird was at Mueller Dam on 5 June 2014 (RM, DNS).

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*)

Status: Uncommon year-round visitor.

Distribution: Rock Pigeons are closely associated with farmsteads but might be seen flying overhead anywhere in the checklist area.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local breeding species.

Remarks: Locally, this species is largely dependent on anthropogenic structures and habitats.

Breeding activity likely peaks from May through July.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

Status: Uncommon year-round resident.

Distribution: Eurasian Collared-Dove use woody habitats. They are most frequently encountered at farmsteads.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local breeding species, though two birds were calling and flight-chasing by War Creek Dam on 19 April 2014 (DNS).

High Counts: Alan Van Norman found 10 Eurasian Collared-Doves in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 5 January 2013 (eBird database).

Remarks: This recently-arrived species has rapidly colonized suitable habitat and is now abundant in nearby communities such as Pierre and Fort Pierre. Breeding activity likely peaks between April and August.

MOURNING DOVE

(*Zenaida macroura*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant and summer resident, casual winter visitor.

Distribution: Mourning Doves are seen throughout the checklist area's habitats.

Nesting: Mourning Dove nests and fledglings are noted annually in the checklist area. Dan Svingen photographed a nest (Figure 45) with young nestlings on 21 August 2014 at Sheriff Dam. A nest with a newly hatched nestling and unhatched egg was photographed there 4 September 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: The hardiest Mourning Doves arrive in late March and persist into at least November. Peak numbers occur in August and September. The long breeding season has a peak from early May to mid-August. A leucistic Mourning Dove was at Bower Dam on 11 July 2014 (RM, DNS).



YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus americanus*)

Status: Accidental spring migrant.

Distribution: Yellow-billed Cuckoos use deciduous woodland.

Remarks: The sole record is of a bird found in the Reservation Road Winter Pasture on 27 May 2012 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database).

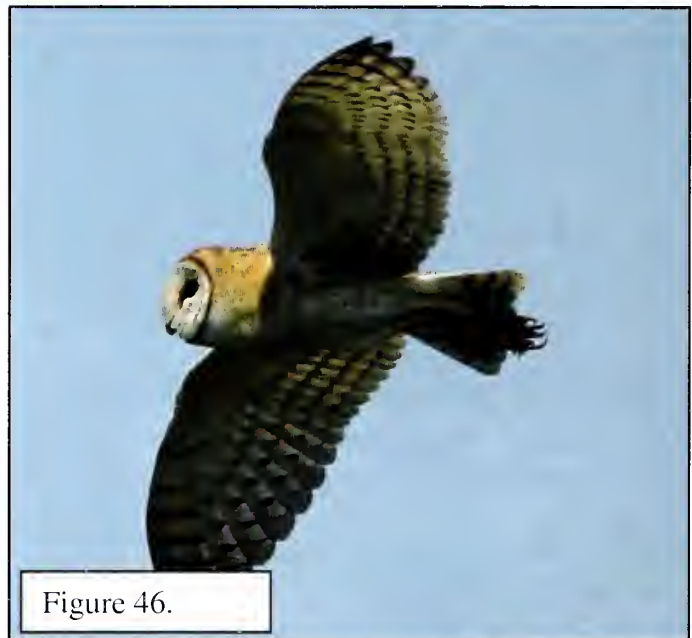
BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*)**Status:** Accidental fall migrant.**Distribution:** Black-billed Cuckoos use deciduous woodland.**Remarks:** The sole record is of an unusually late bird found at the Cookstove Shelterbelt on 8 September 2010 (Ricky Olson pers. comm.).**BARN OWL** (*Tyto alba*)**Status:** Casual spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Barn Owls use the coniferous woodland plantings.**Remarks:** Doug Backlund photographed a Barn Owl (Figure 46) at Richland Dam on 13 May 2006; a bird was also seen there on 19 April 2014 (DNS). A Barn Owl was at Sheriff Dam on 4 September 2014 (DNS). Mike McCloy found a Barn Owl in the Lyman County portion of the checklist area on 20 May 2012 (eBird database).

Figure 46.

EASTERN SCREECH-OWL(*Megascops asio*)**Status:** Casual fall and winter visitor.**Distribution:** Eastern Screech-owls use woodland habitats.**Remarks:** The only local records to date regard a bird photographed (Figure 47) by Doug Backlund in the Nels Three-quarters Pasture at the intersection of County Line Road and Bear Paw Ranch Road on 29 February 2008, and another that answered play-back at Sheriff Dam on 22 October 2015 (DNS).

Figure 47.

GREAT HORNED OWL (*Bubo virginianus*)

Status: Uncommon year-round resident.

Distribution: Great Horned Owls use all of the checklist area's habitats, but are most likely to be found in woodland.

Nesting Records: Great Horned Owl nests and fledglings are encountered annually within the checklist area; for example, a nest with 2 young was at Bower Dam on 14 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.).

Remarks: Peak breeding activity occurs from early March to late June.

SNOWY OWL (*Bubo scandiacus*)

Status: Rare but irregular spring and fall migrant and winter resident or visitor.

Distribution: Snowy Owls use mixed-grass prairie and cropland habitats.

High Counts: Doug Backlund (pers. comm.) has found up to 20 Snowy Owls in the checklist area during a single day.

Remarks: This species might be present anytime from early November into late March.

BURROWING OWL (*Atheue cuicicularia*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Burrowing owls use mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Dependent fledglings are encountered annually within the checklist area.

Remarks: Over 99% of the Burrowing Owl observations in the checklist area have been at or near Black-tailed Prairie Dog colonies. Burrowing Owls are present from mid-April through September. Late May to early August is the peak of the breeding season. Two birds were in the South Lake Flat West Pasture on 6 October 2015 (DNS).

LONG-EARED OWL (*Asio otus*)

Status: Casual spring migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: This species uses deciduous and coniferous woodland.

Remarks: This species migrates in April, October, and November, but should be looked for at any time of year. The only local records are of a Long-eared Owl in the Reservation Road Shelterbelt on 14 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.) and of a bird photographed (Figure 48) by Kelly Fuoss in the IT #25 Pasture on 27 July 2012.



Figure 48.

SHORT-EARED OWL (*Asio flammeus*)

Status: Uncommon but irregular year-round visitor or resident.

Distribution: Short-eared Owls use mixed-grass prairie, hayfields, and idle grasslands.

Nesting Records: A Short-eared Owl nest was found in the Cookstove Alkali Pasture on 8 June 2008 (CE, Kelly Phillips, District Wildlife Files).

High Counts: Doug Backlund (pers. comm.) has seen up to 46 Short-eared Owls in the checklist area during a single afternoon.

Remarks: Late April to mid-July is the peak of breeding.

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL

(*Aegolius acadicus*)

Status: Casual fall migrant.

Distribution: Northern Saw-whet Owls use planted woodland.

Remarks: This species migrates in March, October, and November. The only record to date regards the birds photographed by Dan Svingen at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 20 November 2014 (Figure 49) and 22 October 2015.

**COMMON NIGHTHAWK**

(*Chordeiles minor*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant, rare summer visitor or resident.

Distribution: This species can be seen throughout the checklist area.

Nesting Records: Common Nighthawks have yet to be confirmed as local nesters.

High Counts: Mary Anne Romito found 2 Common Nighthawks in the Stanley County portion of the checklist area on 30 July 2014.

Remarks: Common Nighthawks should be looked for from late May through early September; peak numbers occur during the last half of August. The likely breeding season peaks from mid-June through July. Carol Erickson photographed a bird on 6 September 2001 in the Number Two SE Pasture. Single Common Nighthawks were in Reservation Road Winter Pasture on 27 May 2012 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database) and at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 1 June 2014 and 1 September 2015 (both sightings DNS).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*)

Status: Casual fall migrant.

Distribution: Ruby-throated Hummingbirds use woodland.

Remarks: Two immature Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were at Sheriff Dam on 30 August

2014, with one bird persisting until at least 4 September 2014 (DNS). Scott Stolz (pers. comm.) has also seen the species at Sheriff Dam during autumn.

BELTED KINGFISHER (*Megasceryle alcyon*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Belted Kingfishers use drainages and reservoirs, especially those with trees.

Remarks: Belted Kingfishers are most likely to be seen in the checklist from April to May, and from September to October. Gerald Hoekstra found a Belted Kingfisher in the Lyman County portion of the checklist area on 29 April 2015 (eBird database). A relatively early Belted Kingfisher (a male) was at Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014 (DNS). Single birds were along Stony Butte Creek near Stony Butte Butte Pasture on 29 September 2014 (RM) and at Richland Dam 6 October 2015 (DNS).

LEWIS'S WOODPECKER

(*Melanerpes lewis*)

Status: Accidental spring visitor.

Distribution: Lewis's Woodpeckers use open woodland and mixed-grass prairie.

Remarks: The only record to date regards the bird (Figure 50) photographed by Brad Bolduan on 27 May 2012 along 226th Street in the Number Two Southeast and Summit West Pastures.

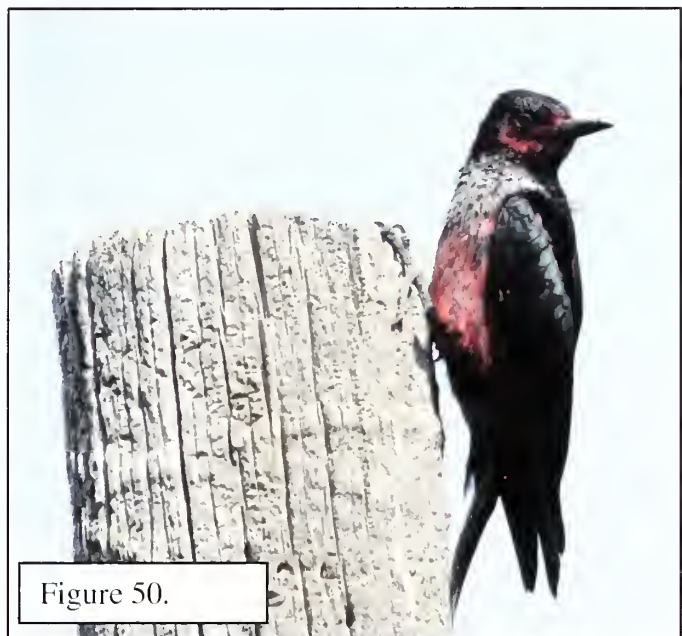


Figure 50.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER

(*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)

Status: Uncommon but irregular spring and fall migrant, rare but irregular summer resident.

Distribution: Red-headed Woodpeckers prefer open woodland.

Nesting Records: Dan Svingen filmed a bird at a nesting cavity in a Cottonwood near Bower Dam on 16 June 2015. Following a high-wind storm on 22 June 2015 no further activity was noted there, but one or two Red-headed Woodpeckers were seen frequenting a nearby nesting cavity for the remainder of the summer.

Remarks: June and July are the peak of nesting activities. An adult bird was seen frequently through summer 2015 south of Richland East Pasture (DNS).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER*(Sphyrapicus varius)***Status:** Casual fall migrant.**Distribution:** This species uses woodland habitat.**Remarks:** A bird was at Reed Ranch Shelterbelt on 1 October 2014 (CE, DNS). A bird was at Richland Dam 6 October 2015 (DNS); another the same day was photographed at Cookstove Shelterbelt (Figure 51) by Dan Svingen.

Figure 51.

DOWNY WOODPECKER*(Picoides pubescens)***Status:** Rare year-round visitor.**Distribution:** Downy Woodpeckers can be seen in any woodland habitat.**Nesting Records:** This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.**Remarks:** May to July is the likely peak of breeding activities. This species nests just outside of the checklist area. A male Downy Woodpecker was at Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014; others were there 31 October 2014 and 6 November 2014 (all sightings DNS).**HAIRY WOODPECKER** *(Picoides villosus)***Status:** Rare year-round visitor.**Distribution:** Hairy Woodpeckers have the same distribution pattern as do Downy Woodpeckers.**Nesting Records:** This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.**Remarks:** May to July is the likely peak of breeding activities. This species nests just outside of the checklist area. A Hairy Woodpecker was at Sheriff Dam on 25 and 27 August 2014 (DNS); others were at Richland Dam on 11 and 16 September 2014 (DNS), and by Mallard Dam on 3 October 2014 (Kelly Fuoss, pers. comm).**NORTHERN FLICKER***(Colaptes auratus)***Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, rare summer and winter resident or visitor.**Distribution:** Northern Flickers use all of the checklist area's woodland habitats.**Nesting Records:** This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.**Remarks:** The Northern Flicker is most likely to be found from early April to mid-October. The likely breeding season peak is from early May to early July. Most birds seen in the checklist area are "yellow-shafted".

AMERICAN KESTREL (*Falco sparverius*)

Status: Uncommon spring migrant, rare summer resident, fairly common fall migrant.

Distribution: American Kestrels are most often found in woodland and mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Nick Lowrey (pers. comm.) found an American Kestrel pair using a cavity in a large Cottonwood near Richland East Pasture on 8 June 2015.

High Counts: Five American Kestrels were in the checklist area on both 11 September 2014 and 11 September 2015 (DNS) and 13 September 2006 (CE). Approximately 15 birds were observed near the Williams Pastures on 22 September 2014, with another six to eight birds along the Presho Road (RM).

Remarks: Birds may be present from March through late October. Peak breeding occurs from mid-May to late July.

MERLIN (*Falco columbarius*)

Status: Rare spring migrant, casual summer visitor, uncommon fall migrant, rare winter visitor or resident.

Distribution: Merlins might be seen in any of the checklist area's habitats.

Remarks: Both "Prairie" (*F. c. richardsonii*) and "Taiga" (*F. c. columbarius*) Merlins pass through the checklist area. Spring migration peaks in March and April, whereas fall migrants can be encountered anytime between August and December. A Merlin was at Knoblock Dam on 22 July (RM). A Merlin was seen in the West Bad River Allotment on 25 July 2008 (RM). Another attacked a Prairie Falcon in the West Bad River Pasture on 2 Sept. 2015 (DNS, m.ob.). Single Merlins were near Sheriff Dam on 20 January 2007 (Glenn Moravek, RM, District Wildlife Files) and 4 January 2009 (RM), and at Williams North and Sand Creek North Pastures on 29 January 2010 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.). Alan Van Norman reported a Merlin in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 6 January 2013 (eBird database).

GYRFALCON (*Falco rusticolus*)

Status: Rare but irregular spring and fall migrant and winter resident.

Distribution: Gyrfalcons use all of the checklist area's habitats.

Remarks: Gyrfalcons are most often seen in the checklist area between November and March. Doug Backlund has photographed numerous Gyrfalcons (Figure 52) in the checklist area over the last decade.

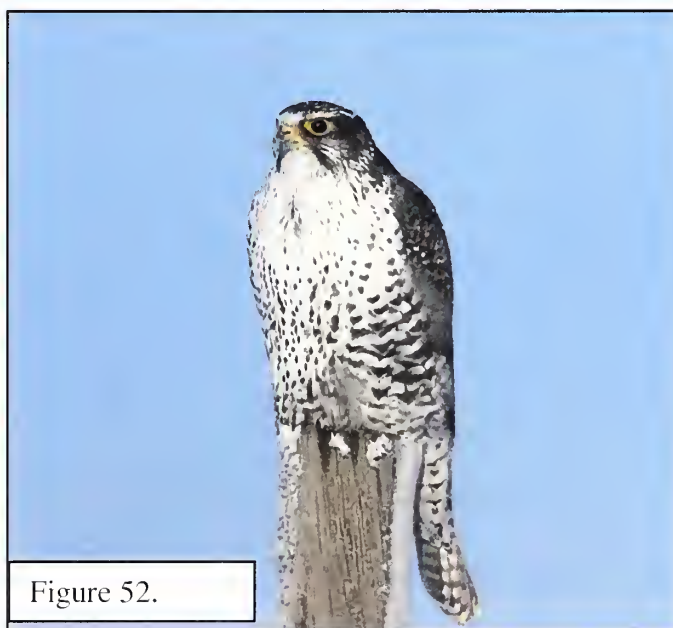


Figure 52.

PEREGRINE FALCON (*Falco peregrinus*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant, casual winter visitor.

Distribution: Peregrine Falcons use the same types of habitats used by Gyrfalcons.

Remarks: Migrating Peregrines are most likely to be seen from mid-April to late May, and again from early September through mid-October. Doug Backlund photographed a bird on the War Creek Road on 15 May 2005, whereas Ruben Mares photographed one in the American Creek Bass Dam Pasture on 14 May 2008. Casey Mehls and Silka Kempena found a Peregrine Falcon in the Missouri Breaks Upper Sand Creek Pasture on 5 January 2012 and near the Timber Creek Home Pasture on 15 February 2012. Single birds were by Cedar Creek Miller Pasture on 6 May 2014 (DNS), at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 12 May 2015 (DNS), at Sheriff Dam on 30 September 2015 (DNS, RM), and near Chester ½ Section North Pasture on 9 October 2014 (RM). John Carlson photographed another while it was being chased by a Prairie Falcon in the West Bad River Big Pasture on 2 September 2015 (DNS, m.ob.).

PRAIRIE FALCON (*Falco mexicanus*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant, rare summer visitor, rare winter resident.

Distribution: Prairie Falcons can be seen across the checklist area.

High Counts: Terry Sohl reported 9 Prairie Falcons on and near the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 27 November 2011 (SD Bird ListServe archives).

Remarks: Prairie Falcons are least likely to be seen in the checklist area during May and June.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

(*Contopus cooperi*)

Status: Casual fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses deciduous woodland, particularly the tops of snags.

Remarks: The Olive-sided Flycatcher's fall migration period in central South Dakota is mid-August to mid-September. Dan Svingen photographed a distant bird (Figure 53) at Cottonwood Dam on 2 September 2014; another bird was photographed at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 16 September 2014 (DNS).

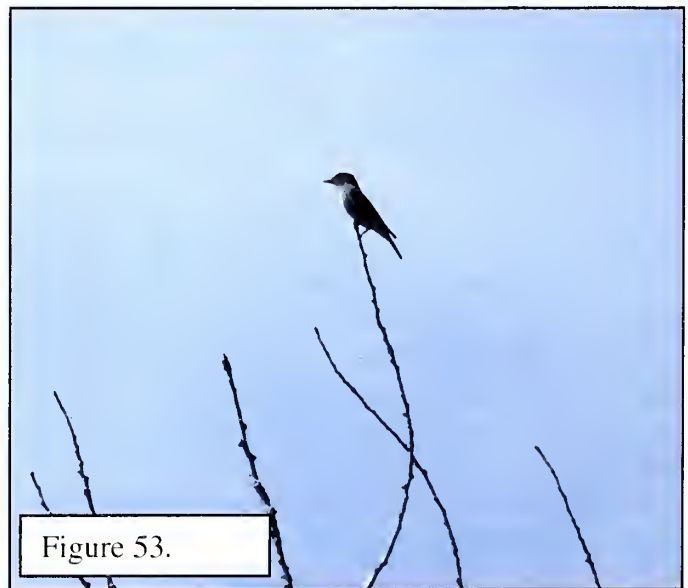


Figure 53.

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE

(*Contopus virens*)

Status: Casual spring migrant.

Distribution: Eastern Wood-Pewees use wooded habitats.

Remarks: This species' spring migration is most active in mid to late May. The only record of Eastern Wood-pewee from the checklist area is a bird seen by Scott Stolz (pers. comm.) at

Sheriff Dam on 26 May 2013. A silent, and so unidentified, wood-pewee was photographed at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 1 September 2015 (DNS).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flaviventris*)

Status: Accidental summer visitor.

Distribution: Yellow-bellied Flycatchers use deciduous woodland.

Remarks: This species migrates in late May/early June and late August/early September. The only local record is of a bird found at the Reed Ranch Shelterbelt on 5 June 2010 (Ricky Olson pers. comm.).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax traillii*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: This species uses deciduous woodland, particularly plantings.

Nesting Records: An adult with two dependent fledglings was at Sheriff Dam on 10 August 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Spring migration is active in May; the species is absent by late August or early September. Late June to late July is the peak of the breeding season. Currently there are no records of Alder Flycatcher from the checklist area.

LEAST FLYCATCHER

(*Empidonax minimus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Least Flycatchers use deciduous woodland.

High Counts: Six Least Flycatchers were at Reed Ranch Shelterbelt on 22 August 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Watch for this species in May, late August and early September. This species nests just outside of the checklist area. Dan Svingen photographed a Least Flycatcher (Figure 54) at Knoblock Dam on 27 May 2015.



Figure 54.

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident.

Distribution: Say's Phoebes use mixed-grass prairie, particularly where eroded clay buttes or old buildings are present.

Nesting Records: Several nests of this species have been found in the checklist area (Doug

Backlund pers. comm.).

Remarks: This hardy flycatcher might be encountered anytime from early April to late September. The peak of breeding is from late May to late July.

WESTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus verticalis*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Western Kingbirds can be seen perched on wires, fenceposts, or trees throughout the checklist area.

Nesting Records: Numerous nests of this species have been found in the checklist area. For example, an active nest was found in the Grass Creek Shelterbelt on 22 June 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Western Kingbirds are typically present from early May to late August. Western Kingbird peak breeding activity occurs mid-June to mid-July. A late bird was near Sheriff Dam on 4 September 2014 (DNS).

EASTERN KINGBIRD

(*Tyrannus tyrannus*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: The Eastern Kingbird (Figure 55) uses the same habitats as does the Western Kingbird.

Nesting Records: Numerous nests and broods of this species have been found in the checklist area. For example, an adult was being followed by three fledged juveniles in Glenn Pasture on 27 August 2014 (Paul Baicich, DNS).

Remarks: This species' seasonality is similar to that of the Western Kingbird. A late bird was at Sheriff Dam on 11 September 2014 (DNS).

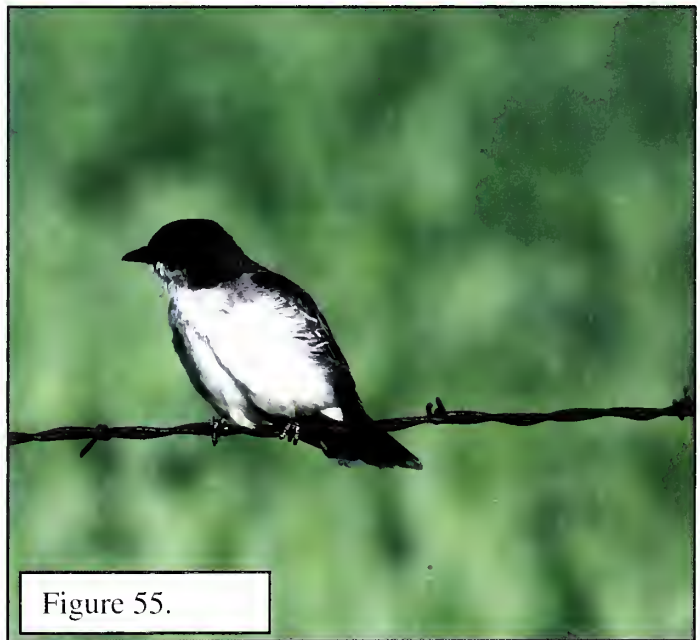


Figure 55.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus forficatus*)

Status: Accidental summer visitor and fall migrant.

Distribution: Scissor-tailed Flycatchers use open woodlands and prairie habitats.

Remarks: The only local records are of an adult photographed in the Cookstove Allotment on 13 July 1998 (*fide* Doug Backlund), and of a juvenile bird found on 14 October 2000 in the Sand Creek Pasture (i.e. T109N, R77W, Sections 17/20; Doug Backlund pers. comm.).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE

(*Lanius ludovicianus*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Loggerhead Shrikes use tree and shrub patches in or near mixed-grass prairie, cropland, hayland, or idle grasslands.

Nesting Records: This species (Figure 56) has nested in the past at the Cookstove Shelterbelt (CE). Doug Backlund found an active nest attended by food-carrying adults in the Timber Creek North Pasture on 25 May 2014.

Remarks: Loggerhead Shrikes are typically present from early April to late August, but some birds linger into October. The breeding season peak for the Loggerhead Shrike is from early May to mid-July. For a list of recent past sightings, see Appendix 2.



NORTHERN SHRIKE (*Lanius excubitor*)

Status: Uncommon but irregular spring and fall migrant and winter resident.

Distribution: Northern and Loggerhead shrikes use similar habitat.

Remarks: Northern Shrike may be present anytime between mid-October and late March.

BELL'S VIREO (*Vireo bellii*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer visitor or resident.

Distribution: Bell's Vireos use deciduous woodland.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

Remarks: This species should be watched for from mid-May through the end of August. The likely breeding season peak is from late May to late July. Two Bell's Vireos were found in the Timber Creek North Pasture on 23 May 2014, with another singing in the Cookstove Shelterbelt the same day (Doug Backlund pers. comm.). A pair of Bell's Vireo were at the Reservation Road Shelterbelt on 27 May 2015 (DNS); a bird was singing there on 3 June 2014 (RM, DNS). Juvenile Bell's Vireos were at Sheriff Dam on 21 and 26 August 2014 and Cookstove Shelterbelt on 1 September 2015 (all sightings DNS).

BLUE-HEADED VIREO (*Vireo solitarius*)

Status: Casual fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses deciduous woodland.

Remarks: Blue-headed Vireos migrate through central South Dakota in May, August, and September. The only records from the checklist area are of single birds at Sheriff Dam on 1 September 2015 and 2 September 2014 (both sightings DNS).

WARBLING VIREO (*Vireo gilvus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident.

Distribution: Warbling Vireos can be found in deciduous woodland.

Nesting Records: The Warbling Vireo has yet to be confirmed as a local breeder.

Remarks: This species might be present from mid-May through the end of September, but is most likely to be found in the last half of May and in the first half of September. The likely breeding season peak for the Warbling Vireo (Figure 57) is from late May to late July. Two-three birds were at the north side of the Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 1-5 June 2014 (DNS).

**PHILADELPHIA VIREO** (*Vireo philadelphicus*)

Status: Accidental spring migrant.

Distribution: Philadelphia Vireos use deciduous woodland.

Remarks: This species migrates through South Dakota in mid to late May; it is considered accidental west of the Missouri River (Tallman et al. 2002). The sole local record is of a bird found at Sheriff Dam on 18 May 2015 (DNS).

RED-EYED VIREO (*Vireo olivaceus*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Red-eyed Vireos use deciduous woodland habitat.

Remarks: Red-eyed Vireo (Figure 58) migration occurs in May, August, and early September. This species nests along the Missouri River, just outside the checklist area. Doug Backlund found a Red-eyed Vireo at Sheriff Dam on 19 and 20 May 2014. Dan Svingen found single birds there on 11 September 2014 and 30 May 2015.

**BLUE JAY** (*Cyanocitta cristata*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, casual winter visitor.

Distribution: This species uses woodland.

High Counts: A flock of six Blue Jays was at Sheriff Dam on 7 October 2014 and on 14 May 2015 (both sightings DNS). An astounding 100+ birds were there the second week of October in 2014 (Nick Lowrey pers. comm.).

Remarks: Blue Jay migration is most noticeable in May and October. A bird was in Alkali West Pasture on 25 September 2015 (Doug Gordon, Tim Iron Thunder pers. comm.). The only local winter record is of two birds recorded in the Lyman County portion of the checklist area on 2 January 2011 (Alan Van Norman, eBird database).

AMERICAN CROW (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: American Crows are seen and heard throughout the checklist area.

High Counts: On 9 October 2015, 260 American Crows were observed flying over the Fort Pierre National Grassland, including 140 birds in a flock above County Line #14 Pasture (DNS).

Remarks: Watch for this species in March, April, May, September, and October.

COMMON RAVEN (*Corvus corax*)

Status: Accidental fall migrant.

Distribution: Common Ravens use a wide variety of habitats, including all of those found in the checklist area.

Remarks: The only record of a Common Raven from the checklist area is of a bird seen in the 50/50 East and 50/50 West Pastures on 21 November 2014 (DNS). The bird landed repeatedly along US Highway 83 to inspect carrion as it worked its way south from near Fort Pierre.

HORNED LARK (*Eremophila alpestris*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant, common summer resident, abundant but irregular winter resident.

Distribution: Horned Larks are prominent in mixed-grass prairie and cropland habitats.

Nesting Records: A fledgling was found in Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 25 May 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Migration periods for this species are late February to early April and in September and October. Late April to late July encompasses the peak of the Horned Lark's protracted breeding season.

TREE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta bicolor*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident.

Distribution: Tree Swallows are most often found near reservoirs, but can be seen in a wide variety of habitats.

Nesting Records: Tree Swallows are found annually across the checklist area using nest boxes and tree cavities. For example, two adults were tending a nesting cavity in a Cottonwood by Bower Dam on 2 July 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Peak annual numbers are seen between mid-April and mid-May. Many birds depart by late July or early August, but some may still be present to mid-October. Peak breeding activity is from early June to mid-July.

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

(*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Watch for Northern Rough-winged Swallows along the shores of the checklist area's largest stockponds, as well as at stream cutbanks.

Nesting Records: Dan Svingen photographed a brood of six fledglings (Figure 59) tended by an adult at Richland Dam on 20 July 2014.

Remarks: These swallows arrive in late April and early May; most are southbound by early August. Mid-May to mid-July is peak breeding time.

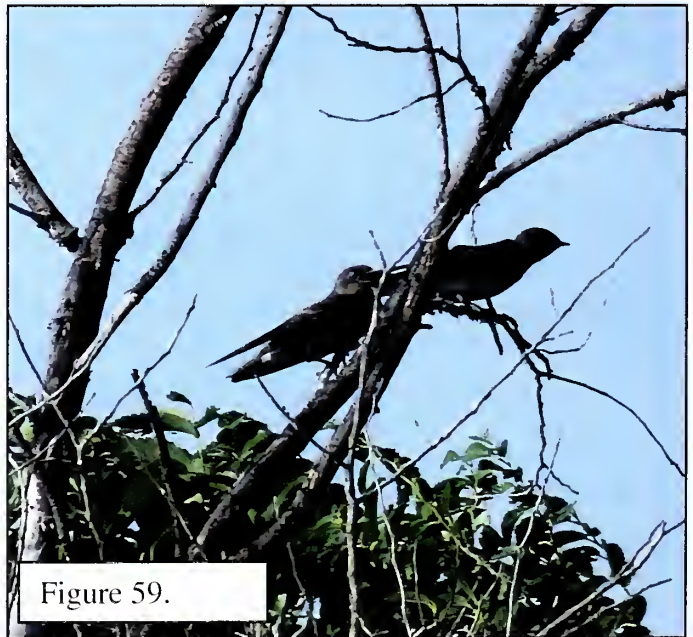


Figure 59.

BANK SWALLOW (*Riparia riparia*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Bank Swallows and Northern Rough-winged Swallow use similar habitats.

Remarks: Bank Swallows are relatively late migrants, arriving mostly in mid-May. The highest numbers are seen in the last half of August. Most birds depart by early September.

CLIFF SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, rare summer visitor.

Distribution: Cliff Swallows might be seen foraging in any open habitat.

High Counts: A flock of 40 Cliff Swallows was at Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Cliff Swallows may be found from late April to mid-September, but are most likely to be seen in May, August, and September. At least 7 Cliff Swallows were in Nels North Pasture on 1 June 2011 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database).

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: This species is most often seen near human habitations. Foraging birds are seen in a variety of habitats throughout the checklist area.

Nesting Records: Nests of this species are easy to find each year. For example, Dan Svingen photographed a nest (Figure 60) with four nestlings along 291st Ave. adjacent to Countyline #18 Pasture on 16 July 2014.

Remarks: Barn Swallows return north in late April and depart by mid-October. Breeding activities occur mostly from late May to early August.

**BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE** (*Poecile atricapillus*)

Status: Casual spring migrant and winter visitor.

Distribution: Black-capped Chickadees use woodlands. The species is most abundant in deciduous woodland habitat.

Remarks: Scott Stolz (pers. comm. and eBird database) saw two Black-capped Chickadees at Richland Dam on 22 February 2013. Deirdre Robinson (eBird database) found six birds in the Lyman County portion of the checklist area on 22 April 2005.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH*(Sitta canadensis)***Status:** Casual fall migrant.**Distribution:** Red-breasted Nuthatches inhabit woodlands.**Remarks:** This species' fall migration occurs from September into December. Scott Stolz saw a Red-breasted Nuthatch at Sheriff Dam on 9 September 2011. Dan Svingen photographed a Red-breasted Nuthatch (Figure 61) at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 11 September 2014, and found two birds each at Richland Dam on 4 September 2015 and at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 6 October 2015.

Figure 61.

ROCK WREN (*Salpinctes obsoletus*)**Status:** Casual spring migrant.**Distribution:** Rock Wrens use clay cutbanks and rock piles.**Remarks:** During spring, Rock Wrens migrate in April and May. Doug Backlund (pers. comm.) found a singing bird along 291st Avenue adjacent to the Lookout Middle Pasture in spring (date unspecified); this is the only record from the checklist area. This species nests on clay buttes just outside the project area.**HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*)****Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident.**Distribution:** This species uses woodland habitats.**Nesting Records:** At Bower Dam on 2 July 2015, a food-carrying adult was seen entering a tree cavity from which begging nestlings could be heard (DNS).**Remarks:** Most individuals do not arrive until early May. Numbers typically drop rapidly after mid-September. A late bird was photographed at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 6 October 2015 (DNS). Peak breeding activity is from late May to mid-July.

WINTER WREN (*Troglodytes hiemalis*)**Status:** Casual fall migrant.**Distribution:** Winter Wrens use woodland.**Remarks:** Look for this species in late September through October. The only record from the checklist area is of a bird partially photographed (Figure 62) by Dan Svingen at Sheriff Dam on 9 October 2015.

Figure 62.

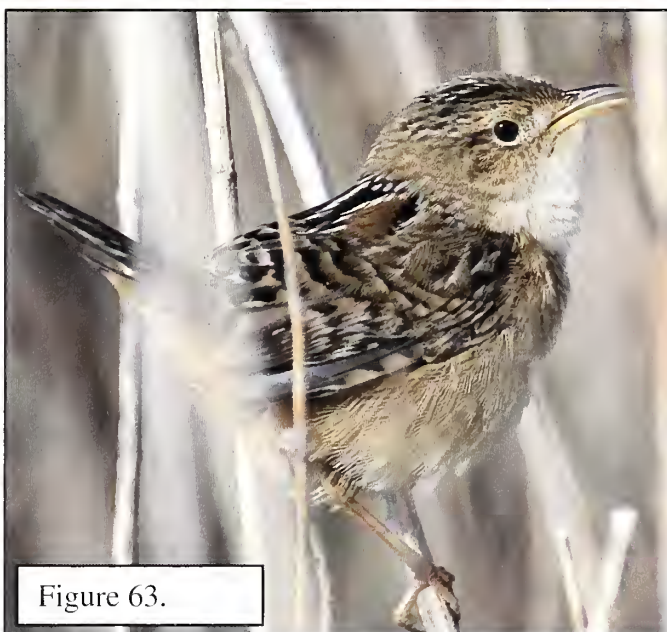
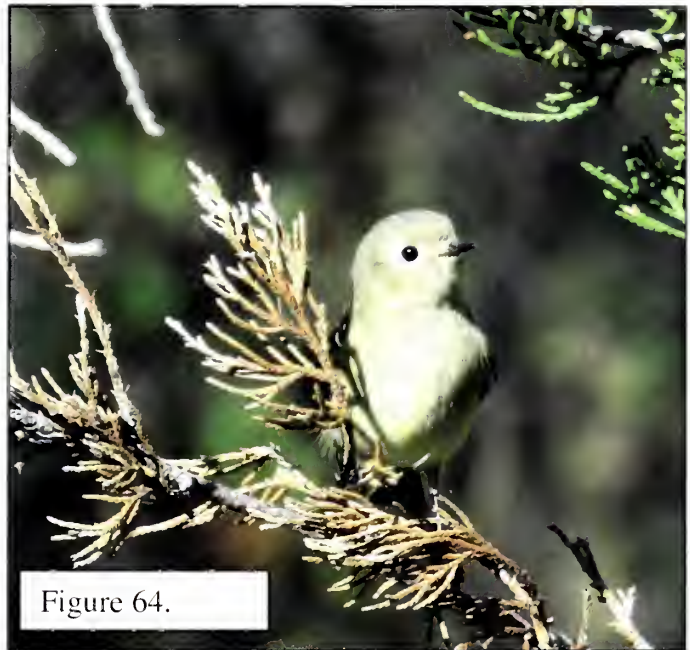
SEDGE WREN (*Cistothorus platensis*)**Status:** Casual spring and fall migrant and summer resident or visitor.**Distribution:** Watch for Sedge Wrens in extensive stands of dense grass, especially near wetlands.**Remarks:** Sedge Wrens migrate in May, August, and September. Doug Backlund photographed a bird (Figure 63) at Bower Dam on 14 May 2014. Another singing bird was at Cottonwood Dam on 11 July 2014 (RM, DNS). Cory Gregory (eBird database) found 4 birds in the Jones County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland and 1 bird in the Stanley County portion on 12 August 2013.

Figure 63.

MARSH WREN (*Cistothorus palustris*)**Status:** Rare spring and fall migrant and summer resident.**Distribution:** Watch for Marsh Wrens in extensive stands of cattails and bulrush at wetlands.**Nesting Records:** This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.**High Counts:** Four birds were calling in Alkali Alkali Pasture on 3 June 2014 (RM, DNS).**Remarks:** Marsh Wrens migrate in April/May and September/October; the likely breeding season is June and July. Stolz found Marsh Wrens at Sheriff Dam on 26 May 2015 and 9 August 2012. Other single birds were in Alkali Home Pasture on 27 May 2015 (DNS), at Sheriff Dam on 13 July 2015 (DNS), at War Creek East Dam on 25 August 2015 (CE), at Cookstove Dam on 5 September 2015 (DNS), in Buer Winter Pasture 5 October 2015 (RM), at South Lake Flat Dam on 6 October 2015 (DNS), and at Sheriff Dam on 20 October 2015 (DNS, Nick Lowrey).

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET*(Regulus calendula)***Status:** Uncommon spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Ruby-crowned Kinglets use woodland habitats.**High Counts:** A heavy fallout on 6 October 2015 resulted in tallies of: 150 Ruby-crowned Kinglets at Cookstove Shelterbelt (Figure 64), 25 at Richland Dam, and 100 at Sheriff Dam (DNS, Nick Lowrey).**Remarks:** Ruby-crowned Kinglet migration occurs from mid-April until mid-May and again from mid-September to mid-October. A late bird was at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 31 October 2014 (DNS).**EASTERN BLUEBIRD** *(Sialia sialis)***Status:** Rare spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Watch for Eastern Bluebirds along woodland edges.**Remarks:** This species migrates in April, May, September, and October. Gerald Hoekstra found a bird in the Lyman County portion of the checklist area on 29 April 2015 (eBird database). Single birds were found on 24 May 2014 at: Cookstove Shelterbelt (DNS), Cedar Creek Miller Pasture (DNS), and near Timber Creek Home Pasture (Doug Backlund, pers. comm). On 22 October 2015, Dan Svingen found 11 Eastern Bluebirds at Richland Dam and 12 at Cookstove Shelterbelt.**MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD** *(Sialia currucoides)***Status:** Casual spring migrant.**Distribution:** Mountain Bluebirds use the edges of woodland habitats.**Remarks:** In central South Dakota, springtime Mountain Bluebirds arrive in early March and depart by early April. The sole record from the checklist area regards a bird found by Scott Stolz at Richland Dam on 26 March 2013.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE (*Myadestes townsendi*)**Status:** Casual winter resident or visitor.**Distribution:** Townsend's Solitaires use woodland.**Remarks:** This species may be present anytime between October and April. Scott Stolz found a Townsend's Solitaire at Sheriff Dam on 22 February 2013 (eBird database); this is the only known local record.**VEERY** (*Catharus fuscescens*)**Status:** Accidental spring migrant and summer visitor.**Distribution:** This species uses woodland habitats.**Remarks:** Spring migrants pass through central South Dakota in mid to late May, and occasionally into early June. The only known local records are of a singing bird heard on 29 May 1996 by Shawn Fritcher (exact location unknown), and a singing bird heard near Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 1 June 2014 (DNS).**GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH**(*Catharus minimus*)**Status:** Rare spring migrant.**Distribution:** Gray-cheeked Thrushes use woodland habitat.**Remarks:** Gray-cheeked Thrushes migrate in May. Doug Backlund photographed a bird (Figure 65) at Sheriff Dam on 15 May 2014. Dan Svingen photographed another at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 12 May 2015.**SWAINSON'S THRUSH**(*Catharus ustulatus*)**Status:** Uncommon spring migrant, rare fall migrant**Distribution:** Swainson's Thrushes use woodland habitat.**High Counts:** Ten birds were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 12 May 2015 (DNS).**Remarks:** Migration occurs in May and from late August through September. A relatively late bird was in Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 30 May 2015 (DNS). Autumn sightings included single Swainson's Thrushes at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 1 September 2015 and 11 September 2014, at Richland Dam on 16 September 2014, and at Sheriff Dam on 11 and 16 September 2014 (all sightings DNS).

HERMIT THRUSH

(*Catharus guttatus*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant

Distribution: Hermit Thrushes use woodland habitat.

Remarks: Migration occurs in April and October. Single birds were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 7 October 2014 and 6 October 2015 and at Sheriff Shelterbelt 6 October 2015 (all sightings DNS). Dan Svingen photographed a Hermit Thrush (Figure 66) in atypical mixed-grass prairie habitat near South Lake Flat Dam on 27 April 2015.



AMERICAN ROBIN

(*Turdus migratorius*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident, common but irregular winter resident.

Distribution: This species is widely distributed. It can be found in and near all woodland habitats.

Nesting Records: The American Robin has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

High Counts: Two-hundred American Robins were at Richland Dam on 17 October 2014 (DNS, RM), while 100 were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 6 October 2015 (DNS) and 200 were at Sheriff Shelterbelt 6 October 2015 (DNS, Nick Lowrey).

Remarks: Migrant numbers peak in April and again from September through mid-October. Breeding likely occurs from mid-April to mid-August, with peak activity from late April to late July.

GRAY CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Gray Catbirds use deciduous woodland.

High Counts: Two Gray Catbirds were at Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014 to at least 4 September 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Mid-May and mid-September are the peak migration periods for this species. Dan Svingen photographed a relatively early bird at Richland Dam on 5 May 2015. Late birds were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 30 May 2015 and at Cookstove and Sheriff Shelterbelts on 6 October 2015 (all sightings DNS).

BROWN THRASHER (*Toxostoma rufum*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer resident, accidental winter visitor.

Distribution: Brown Thrashers and Gray Catbirds use similar habitats.

Nesting Records: Doug Backlund observed a pair of Brown Thrashers nest-building at Richland Dam on 21 May 2014.

Remarks: Spring migration for the Brown Thrasher is concentrated in early May, whereas fall migration is conducted throughout September. A late bird was at the Cookstove Shelterbelt on 6 October 2015 (DNS). The peak of the breeding season is early June to late July. Richard Hill reported a Brown Thrasher wintering in an area of heavy underbrush and cedar trees below a stock dam on the Fort Pierre National Grassland, Jones County on 25 January 1975 (South Dakota Bird Notes Volume 28, No. 2).

SAGE THRASHER (*Oreoscoptes montanus*)

Status: Accidental spring migrant.

Distribution: This species should be looked for in mixed-grass prairie and in deciduous woodland, including plantings.

Remarks: Samantha Robinson (eBird Database) found a Sage Thrasher along Forest Service 224 on 4 May 2012. Scott Stolz (pers. comm.) found a bird adjacent to the Reed Ranch Shelterbelt on 20 May 2014.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD

(*Mimus polyglottos*)

Status: Casual spring migrant and summer visitor; accidental fall migrant.

Distribution: Northern Mockingbirds use open woodlands; in the checklist area, they are most likely to occur at farmsteads and in shelterbelts.

Remarks: Shawn Fritcher found a Northern Mockingbird in the Lyman County portion of the Ft. Pierre National Grassland on 6 June 1996 (District Files). Ricky Olson (pers. comm.) found a Northern Mockingbird at Reed Ranch Shelterbelt on 5 June 2010. Doug Backlund photographed a Northern Mockingbird (Figure 67) at Richland Dam on 27 May 2014. A Northern Mockingbird was at Reed Ranch Shelterbelt on 1 October 2014 (CE). A bird has also been found at Sheriff Dam, though on an unspecified date (Scott Stolz pers. comm.).

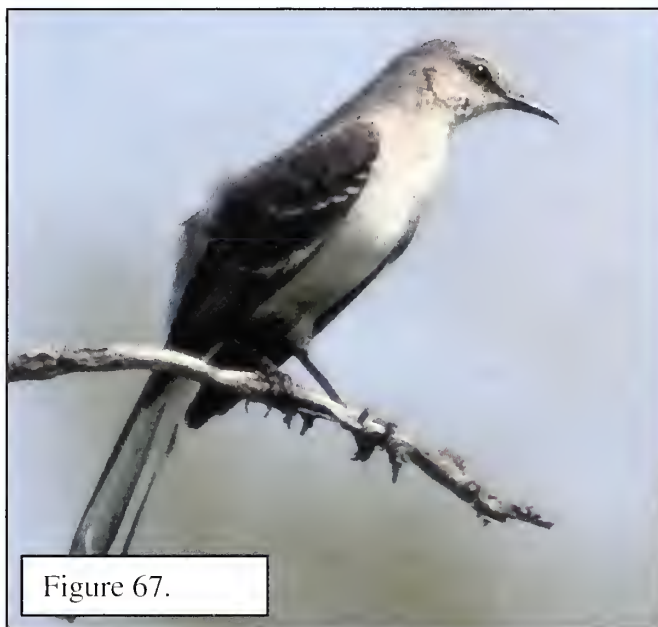


Figure 67.

EUROPEAN STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident, uncommon but irregular winter resident.

Distribution: This adaptable species can be seen throughout the checklist area. It is most numerous in trees near farmsteads.

Nesting Records: Nest building activity was observed in Number Two SW Pasture in May 2014 (DNS).

High Counts: Forty birds were near Bomber South Pasture on 12 March 2014 (Robby Calkins pers. comm.).

Remarks: Late April to mid-June is the peak of breeding.

AMERICAN PIPIT (*Anthus rubescens*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Migrant American Pipits are seen at wetlands with wide mud beaches. They also can be encountered along roadways, in cropland, and in mixed-grass prairie.

High Counts: Forty American Pipits were in Medicine Creek #1 Pasture on 15 October 2014 (RM, DNS).

Remarks: Watch for American Pipits during early May and again during September and into October.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT

(*Anthus spragueii*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant, extirpated summer resident.

Distribution: Migrant Sprague's Pipits use mixed-grass prairie.

High Counts: Fifty birds were in the Richland East Pasture on 26 September 2004 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.).

Remarks: This species should be looked for in April, August, September, and October. Doug Backlund has regularly found birds on Black-tailed Prairie Dog colonies, especially in the western half of the checklist area. He photographed a bird (Figure 68) in the Richland East Pasture on 30 August 2009. In summer 1997, Shawn Fritcher noted several singing birds between May and August, suggesting local nesting. No summer birds have been noted since then. For a listing of past sightings, see Appendix 2.



Figure 68.

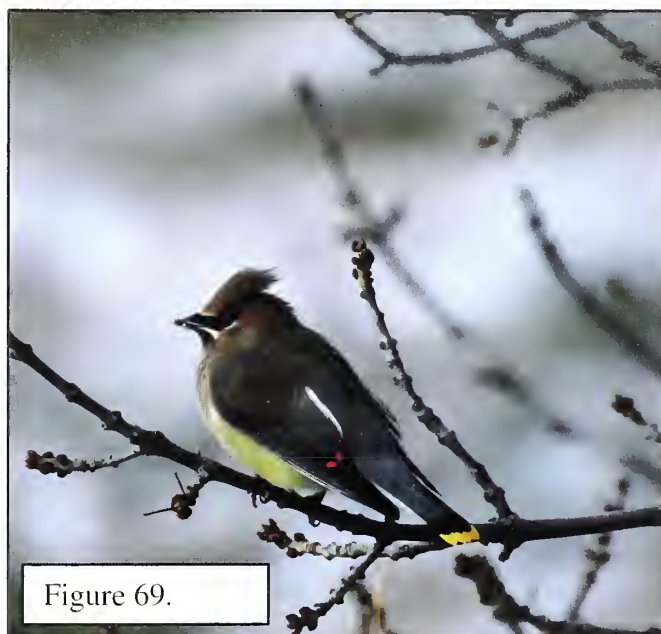
CEDAR WAXWING

(*Bombycilla cedrorum*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, casual summer visitor, common but irregular winter visitor or resident.

Distribution: This species uses deciduous woodland.

Remarks: Cedar Waxwings (Figure 69) are most likely to be found from September through May. Cedar Waxwing flocks should be searched for Bohemian Waxwings. A Cedar Waxwing was at Sheriff Dam on 13 July 2015 (DNS).



LAPLAND LONGSPUR

(*Calcarius lapponicus*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, abundant but irregular winter resident.

Distribution: Lapland Longspurs are most often found along roadways and in cropland. They can also be found in mixed-grass prairie.

High Counts: Scott Stolz (eBird database) reported 250 Lapland Longspurs in the Stanley County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 17 February 2013; 500 birds were found in the checklist area scattered west of US 83 on 10 November 2015 (RM, DNS).

Remarks: This species should be looked for from late September to early May; migration peaks occur in April and October.

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR (*Calcarius ornatus*)

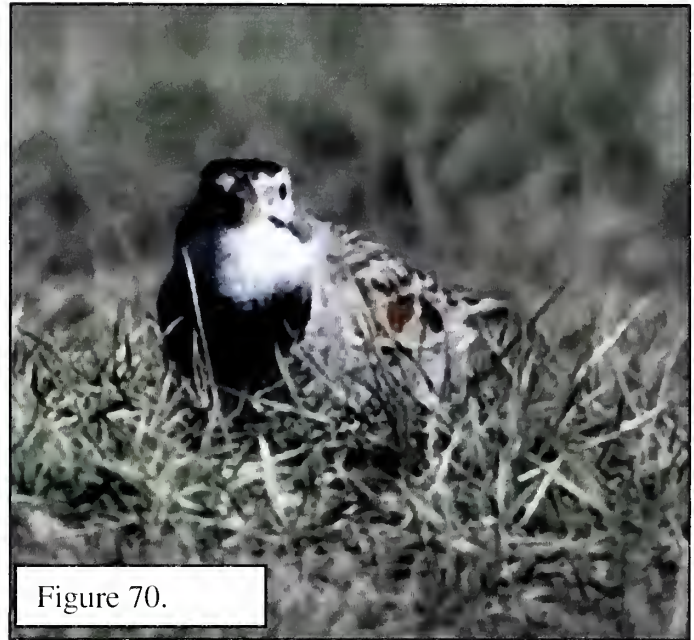
Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident.

Distribution: Heavily-grazed native mixed-grass prairie is preferred by this species.

Nesting Records: Doug Backlund found a nest with 5 eggs in a Black-tailed Prairie Dog colony within the Antelope Creek South Pasture on 30 May 2009 (Drilling 2014). A food-carrying male Chestnut-collared Longspur was noted in Stockton Middle Pasture on 16 July 2014 (RM).

High Counts: Ten Chestnut-collared Longspurs were grouped together on the north fenceline of Mueller B Pasture on 9 August 2014 (DNS). Scott Stolz found 18 birds in the Stanley portion of the checklist area on 8 April 2013 (eBird database).

Remarks: Birds arrive in early to mid-April and are present into late September; a few remain into mid-October. Peak breeding activity occurs from early May to mid-July.

MCCOWN'S LONGSPUR*(Rhynchophanes mccownii)***Status:** Accidental spring migrant.**Distribution:** In the project area, McCown's Longspurs are most likely to be found along roadways, in cropland, or on Black-tailed Prairie Dog colonies within mixed-grass prairie.**Remarks:** Shawn Fritcher saw two McCown's Longspurs in the Stanley County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 12 May 1996 (*vide* Doug Backlund). Doug Backlund photographed a McCown's Longspur (Figure 70) in the Antelope Creek South Pasture along FSR 248 on 15 April 2007.**SNOW BUNTING** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*)**Status:** Rare but irregular spring and fall migrant, abundant but irregular winter visitor.**Distribution:** Snow Bunting use roadsides, cropland, and mixed-grass prairie.**High Counts:** On 27 December 2015, a minimum of 1,000 Snow Buntings were along US 83 adjacent to Number Two SE and Lookout South Pastures (DNS, Elena Svingen).**Remarks:** This species might be found anytime from mid-October through late March. Snow Buntings can sometimes be found in association with Lapland Longspurs.**OVENBIRD** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*)**Status:** Casual spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Ovenbirds use deciduous woodland.**Remarks:** Ovenbirds should be looked for in May, August, and September. Alex Lamoreaux and Ian Gardner reported an Ovenbird in the Lyman County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 16 May 2014 (eBird database). An Ovenbird was at Sheriff Dam on 30 August 2014 (DNS).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH

(*Parkesia noveboracensis*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses deciduous woodland. It is most likely to be seen along the edges of treed wetlands.

Remarks: Northern Waterthrush should be looked for in May and from mid-August to late September. Doug Backlund photographed a Northern Waterthrush (Figure 71) along FSR 208 on 15 May 2014; another bird was at Sheriff Dam the same day (Doug Backlund pers. comm.). Richland Dam and Sheriff Dam had two birds each on 12 May 2015 (DNS). A Northern Waterthrush was at Richland Dam on 11 September 2014 (DNS).



Figure 71.

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER

(*Mniotilta varia*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Watch for this species in woodland habitat.

Remarks: Black-and-White Warblers may be present from late April through May and in August and September. Sightings include singles at: Cookstove Shelterbelt on 4 May 2014 and 1 September 2015 and at Alkali West Dam on 7 May 2014 (all sightings DNS). Doug Backlund photographed a Black-and-White Warbler (Figure 72) at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 15 May 2014.

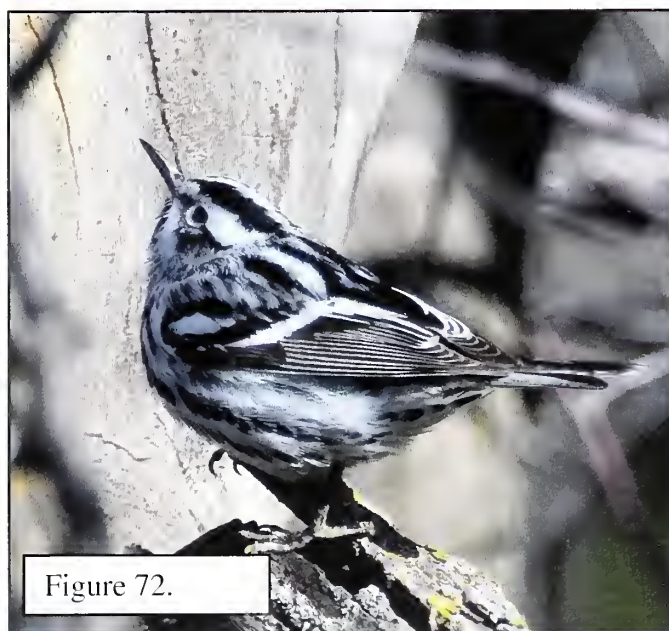


Figure 72.

TENNESSEE WARBLER

(*Oreothlypis peregrina*)

Status: Uncommon spring migrant, rare fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses woodland habitat.

High Counts: Nine Tennessee Warblers were at Sheriff Dam on 19 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.).

Remarks: Tennessee Warbler numbers peak from mid- to late May and again from August to early September. Detection of late-migrating birds during early June would not be unexpected.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (*Oreothlypis celata*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses woodland habitat.

High Count: Ten Orange-crowned Warblers were at Sheriff Dam on 24 September 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Orange-crowned Warblers can be found from mid-April to mid-May and from September to early October.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT

(*Geothlypis trichas*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Common Yellowthroats are widely distributed. They use dense mixed-grass prairie and hayland as well as emergent vegetation surrounding wetlands. In migration, they are often found in deciduous woodland.

Nesting Records: A fledgling was at South Lake Flat Dam on 9 August 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: The Common Yellowthroat (Figure 73) arrives in early May and departs by late September. Early June to mid-August is the peak breeding season.



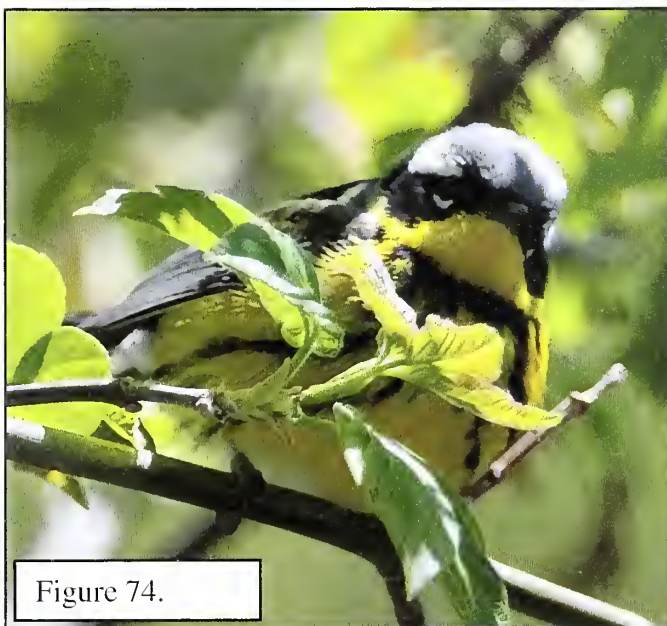
AMERICAN REDSTART (*Setophaga ruticilla*)

Status: Rare spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: This species uses deciduous woodland.

High Counts: Three American Redstarts each were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 20 May 2014 and at Sheriff Dam on 23 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.). Two birds were at Sheriff Dam on 14 May 2015 (DNS). Eight birds were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 1 September 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: American Redstarts should be looked for in May and in August to mid-September. This species prefers sites with a well-developed shrub and small tree layer. An adult male was at Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014 (DNS); others were seen there and at Richland Dam on 2 September 2014.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER*(Setophaga magnolia)***Status:** Casual spring migrant.**Distribution:** Magnolia Warblers use woodland habitats.**Remarks:** Watch for this species during May. Doug Backlund photographed a bird (Figure 74) at Sheriff Dam on 15 May 2014. Single birds were also found there on 14 May 2015 (DNS) and 26 May 2015 (Scott Stolz pers. comm.).**YELLOW WARBLER***(Setophaga petechia)***Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident.**Distribution:** Yellow Warblers use wooded habitats.**Nesting Records:** A male Yellow Warbler was observed carrying food on 22 June 2014 in the Cookstove Shelterbelt (DNS).**High Counts:** Fifteen Yellow Warblers were at Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014 (DNS).**Remarks:** Numbers build quickly in early May and taper off in early September. A late bird was at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 6 October 2015 (DNS). Early June to late July is the peak of breeding activities.**CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER** *(Setophaga pensylvanica)***Status:** Casual fall migrant.**Distribution:** Chestnut-sided Warblers use deciduous woodland.**Remarks:** This species migrates through central South Dakota in mid to late May and in late August to mid-September. The sole local record pertains to a bird at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 24 August 2015 (DNS).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER

(*Setophaga striata*)

Status: Fairly common spring migrant.

Distribution: Blackpolls use both deciduous and coniferous woodland habitats.

High Counts: Doug Backlund found 15 Blackpoll Warblers at Sheriff Dam on 15 May 2014.

Remarks: Watch for Blackpolls throughout May. Doug Backlund photographed a male Blackpoll Warbler (Figure 75) at Sheriff Dam on 15 May 2014.



Figure 75.

PALM WARBLER

(*Setophaga palmarum*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Watch for this species in woodland habitat and along wetland margins.

Remarks: Migration occurs in early-mid May and September. Doug Backlund photographed a Palm Warbler (Figure 76) at Sheriff Dam on 20 May 2014. Two Palm Warblers were in the Chester Middle Pasture on 29 September 2014 (DNS).

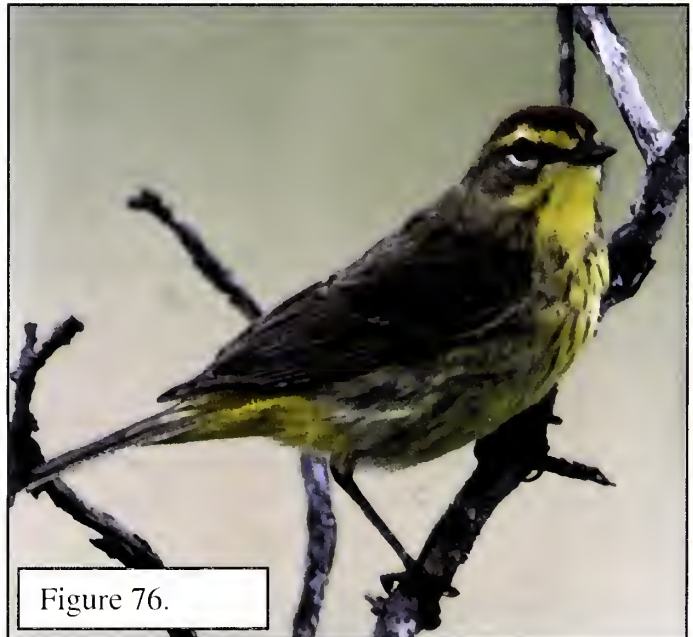


Figure 76.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER (*Setophaga coronata*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Yellow-rumped Warblers use all of the checklist area's woodland habitats.

Remarks: Although present throughout April and May and from September through October, the highest numbers of Yellow-rumped Warblers are seen in the first half of May and the last half of September. The vast majority are of the Myrtle subspecies (*S. c. coronata*). Three late birds were at Sheriff Dam on 10 November 2015 (DNS).

WILSON'S WARBLER (*Cardellina pusilla*)

Status: Rare spring migrant, uncommon fall migrant.

Distribution: Wilson's Warblers use deciduous woodland.

Remarks: The last half of May and mid-August to mid-September are peak migration windows. Recent sightings by Doug Backlund have included: singles at Sheriff Dam on 17 and 20 May 2014 and at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 20 May 2014. Single Wilson's Warblers were at Sheriff Dam on 18 May 2015 and at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 24 August 2015 (both sightings DNS). Another was at Sheriff Dam on 14 May 2015 (both sightings DNS). Two Wilson's Warblers were at Cottonwood Dam on 2 September 2014 and at Sheriff Dam on 24 August 2015 (DNS). A late bird was at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 6 October 2015 (DNS).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT

(*Icteria virens*)

Status: Rare spring migrant, casual fall migrant.

Distribution: Yellow-breasted Chats use deciduous woodland.

Remarks: Watch for this species during the last half of May and in September. Doug Backlund photographed a bird (Figure 77) at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 20 May 2014; he also found single birds at Sheriff Dam on 19 and 20 May 2014 and at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 23 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.). Single Yellow-breasted Chats were at Cottonwood Dam on 2 September 2014, Cookstove Shelterbelt on 4 September 2015, and Sheriff Dam on 27 May 2015 (all sightings DNS).



Figure 77.

SPOTTED TOWHEE (*Pipilo maculatus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident.

Distribution: Spotted Towhees use woodland.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

High Counts: Five Spotted Towhees were at Sheriff Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Spotted Towhee migration occurs from mid-April to mid-May and from mid-September to mid-October. Late May to mid-July is the likely peak of breeding activities. A calling Spotted Towhee was heard at Richland Dam on 12 July 2013 (DNS).

AMERICAN TREE SPARROW (*Spizella arborea*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, rare but irregular winter resident.

Distribution: American Tree Sparrows prefer “weedy” habitats, such as along tree rows, riparian zones, and cropland margins.

Remarks: Mid-March to mid-April and October are the peaks of migration.

CHIPPING SPARROW

(*Spizella passerina*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident.

Distribution: Chipping Sparrows use woodland habitats; they also make use of grassland and cropland edges during migration.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

Remarks: Chipping Sparrows (Figure 78) might be found from mid-April to mid-October. Breeding season activity is likely concentrated from early June to early August. Two birds were at the north end of Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 1 June 2014 (DNS). A bird was near Sheriff Dam on 30 May 2015 while one was at Sheriff Dam 13 July 2015 (DNS). Independent fledglings have been seen at Sheriff Dam several times in early to mid August (DNS), suggesting nearby nesting.



Figure 78.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW (*Spizella pallida*)

Status: Fairly common spring migrant, casual summer visitor, uncommon fall migrant.

Distribution: Clay-colored Sparrows use weedy and brushy patches within the mixed-grass prairie habitat, as well as the edges of woodland habitat.

High Counts: Twenty-five Clay-colored Sparrows were at Sheriff Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Look for this species during early May and again from mid-August to mid-September. A relatively late bird was in Cookstove Shelterbelt on 23 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.). A Clay-colored Sparrow was at Sheriff Dam on 13 July 2015 (DNS).

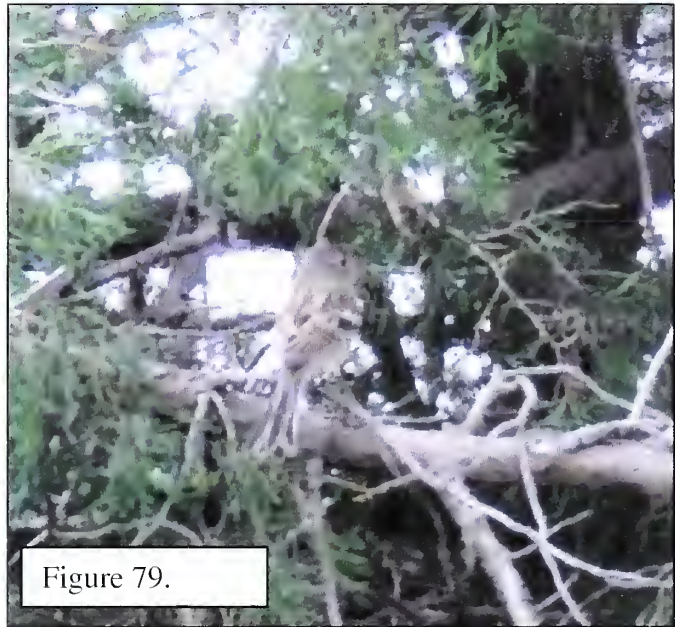
FIELD SPARROW (*Spizella pusilla*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Field Sparrows are most numerous in woody riparian areas and shelterbelts.

High Counts: Richard Latuchie (eBird database) found 3 Field Sparrows at Richland Dam on 1 October 2011.

Remarks: Field Sparrow migration occurs in April, May, September, and October. Dan Svingen photographed a bird (Figure 79) at Sheriff Dam on 30 September 2015.



VESPER SPARROW

(*Pooecetes gramineus*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident or visitor.

Distribution: Vesper Sparrows are widely distributed. Look for them especially along field margins and roadways in cropland and mixed-grass prairie.

High Counts: On 28 September 2014, at least 250 Vesper Sparrows were along roadsides in the checklist area (RM, DNS).

Remarks: Vesper Sparrows migrate in April, May, September, and October. Glenn Moravek saw one near the Wyly SE Pasture on 6 July 2009 (Drilling 2014).

LARK SPARROW (*Chondestes grammacus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident.

Distribution: Lark Sparrows are found along woodland edges.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester

High Counts: Five Lark Sparrows were at Richland Dam on 5 May 2014 (DNS, RM); five were also present at Sheriff Dam on 10 August 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Migration occurs from mid-April to mid-May and again from mid-August to early September. A relatively late bird was in the Knoblock Pasture on 28 September 2014 (DNS). Breeding activity likely peaks from late May to mid-July.

LARK BUNTING

(*Calamospiza melanocorys*)

Status: Common but irregular spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Lark Buntings occur in mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Elizabeth Pokrivka saw a food-carrying Lark Bunting in the West Bad River Winter Pasture on 15 July 2009 (Drilling 2014). A dependent fledgling was accompanied by an adult in County Line #7 Pasture on 20 July 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Lark Buntings (Figure 80) often do not arrive until late May or early June, and then start departing by late July or early August. In most areas of SD, the species is rarely seen in September. Relatively early birds included singles near IT #28 Pasture on 5 May 2014 (RM) and in Prairie Hills North Pasture on 7 May 2014 (RM). Peak breeding activity encompasses the period from early June to early August. This species is well-known for its irruptive population patterns, being numerous some years, absent others.

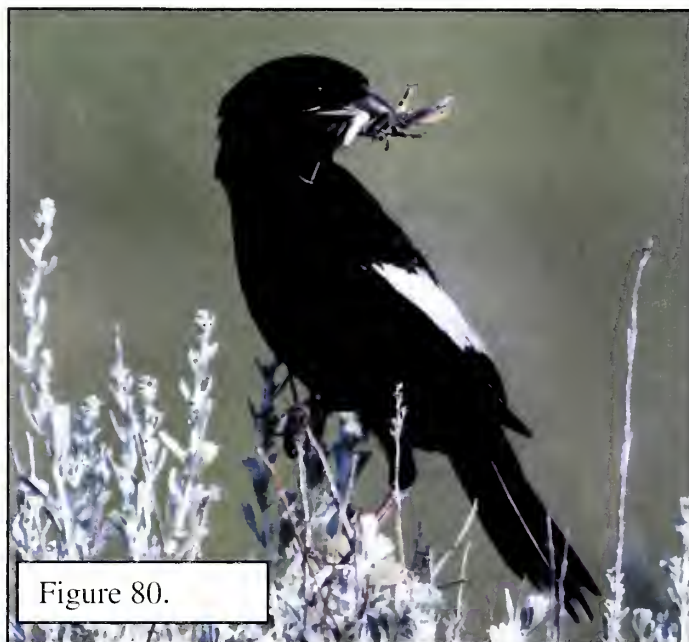


Figure 80.

SAVANNAH SPARROW (*Passerculus sandwichensis*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Savannah Sparrows prefer relatively mesic mixed-grass prairie, hayfields, and idle grasslands.

High Counts: Twenty Savannah Sparrows were at Sheriff Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS). On 28 September 2014, at least 300 Savannah Sparrows were along roadsides in the checklist area (RM, DNS); 40 Savannah Sparrows were near the Cookstove Shelterbelt on 16 September 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Savannah Sparrows migrate in April, May, September, and October. A relatively early Savannah Sparrow was at Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014 (DNS).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW

(*Ammodramus savanarum*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Grasshopper and Savannah sparrows use similar habitats.

Nesting Records: A nest with both eggs and newly hatched nestlings (Figure 81) was photographed by Dan Svingen on 12 July 2014 in the Number Two Southwest Pasture. Dependent fledglings were photographed in Mueller A Pasture on 19 July 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Grasshopper Sparrows first arrive in early May and start departing by early August, with the latest birds leaving in early October. Breeding activity is concentrated from early June to late July.



Figure 81.

BAIRD'S SPARROW

(*Ammodramus bairdii*)

Status: Casual spring migrant, extirpated summer resident.

Distribution: Baird's Sparrows use hayfields, idle grasslands, and mixed-grass prairie.

Remarks: Watch for this species in early May. Dan Svingen photographed a bird (Figure 82) in American Creek Middle Pasture on 9 May 2013. In summer 1997, Shawn Fritcher noted several singing birds between May and August, suggesting local nesting. No summer birds have been noted since then. For a list of past sightings, see Appendix 2.

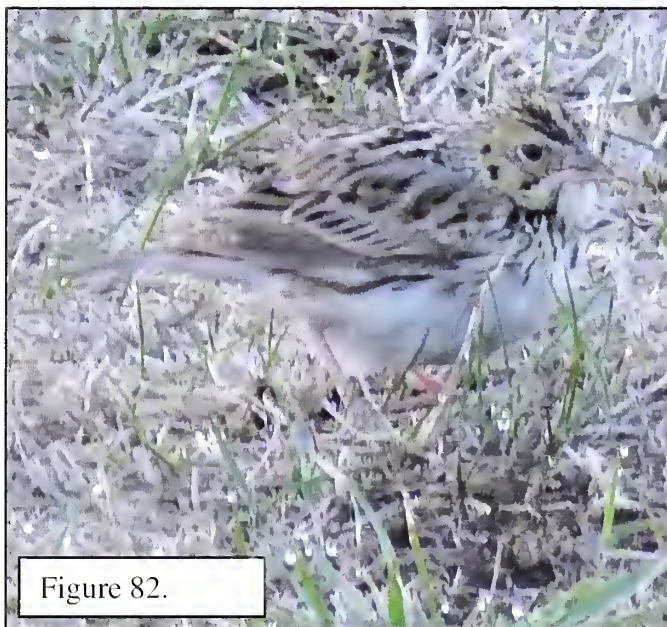


Figure 82.

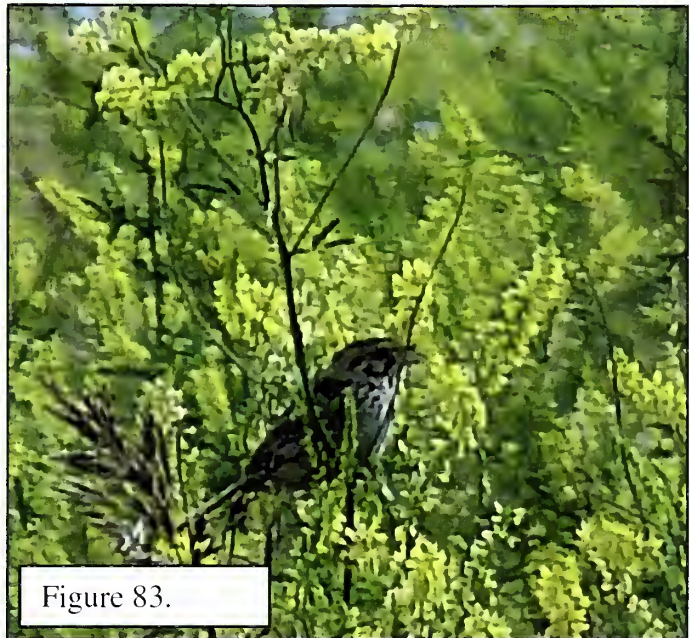
HENSLOW'S SPARROW

(*Ammodramus henslowii*)

Status: Accidental spring migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: This species uses open, relatively tall, dense grassland.

Remarks: Mike McCoy found a Henslow's Sparrow near the Reed Ranch Shelterbelt (Lyman County) on 23 May 2012 (eBird database). The bird was photographed by Doug Backlund on 6 June 2012. Nancy Drilling found two males singing there the same day. A Henslow's Sparrow was along Forest Service Road 219 in American Creek North Pasture on 16 June 2011 (*fide* Nancy Drilling, SD ListServe archive). Eric Ripma found a singing Henslow's Sparrow on the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 29 May 2014 (online blog). Dan Svingen photographed a singing male (Figure 83) in Number Two Southwest Pasture on 12 July 2014.

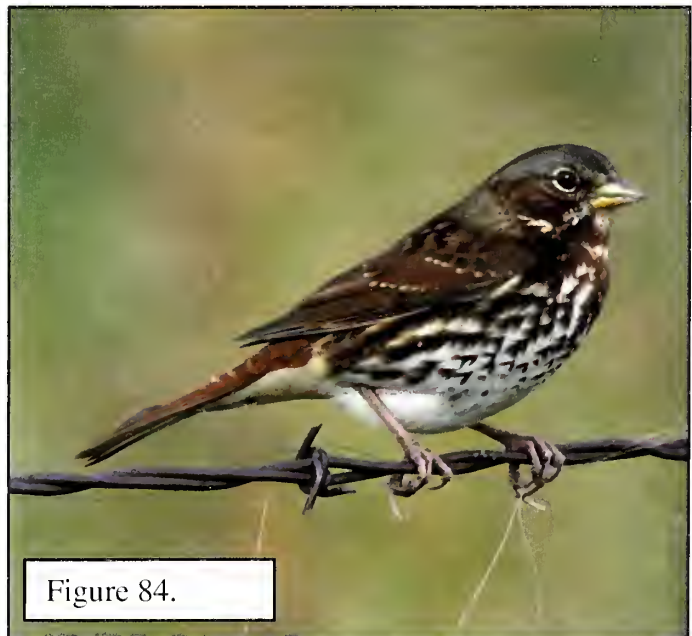


FOX SPARROW (*Passerella iliaca*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Dense, low growing riparian shrubs are preferred by migrating Fox Sparrows. Look for them in deciduous woodland.

Remarks: Migration peaks are April and October. Scott Stolz found a bird at Sheriff Dam on 5 May 2014. Doug Backlund photographed a bird (Figure 84) along the Presho Road near the Williams Pastures on 11 October 2004. A Fox Sparrow was at Sheriff Dam on 1 October 2014 (DNS). Two birds were at the Sheriff Shelterbelt on 20 October 2015 (DNS, Nick Lowrey).



SONG SPARROW*(Melospiza melodia)***Status:** Uncommon spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Song Sparrows use dense grass stands and brush tangles in or near wetlands across the checklist area.**Remarks:** This species might be found in April or May and from August through October. There are no summer records to date, though the species is a regular nester in central South Dakota. Dan Svingen photographed one (Figure 85) of the two Song Sparrows present at Sheriff Dam from 21 August 2014 to at least 4 September 2014. Two late birds were at Sheriff Dam on 20 October 2015 (DNS, Nick Lowrey).

Figure 85.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW*(Melospiza lincolnii)***Status:** Uncommon spring and fall migrant.**Distribution:** Lincoln's Sparrows are most often found in brush tangles in woodland.**High Counts:** Five Lincoln's Sparrows were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 4 May 2014 (DNS); six were at Bower Dam on 14 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.).**Remarks:** Peak migration is in early May and in September. Birds may be found, however, from mid-April through May and from mid-August through mid-October.**SWAMP SPARROW** *(Melospiza georgiana)***Status:** Rare fall migrant.**Distribution:** This species uses dense cattail, dense grass, and deciduous brush stands during migration.**Remarks:** Fall migration peaks from mid-September to mid-October. Scott Stolz found a Swamp Sparrow at Sheriff Dam on 9 September 2011. On 30 September 2014, a Swamp Sparrow was found at a stockpond in Section 6 of the Sioux West Pasture, while three birds were at the nearby stockpond in Section 8 (DNS). Single Swamp Sparrows were at Sheriff Dam and South Lake Flat Dam on 6 October 2015 (DNS), while 4 were at Sheriff Dam on 20 October 2015 (DNS, Nick Lowrey).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia albicollis*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: White-throated Sparrows are most often found in brush tangles in deciduous woodland.

High Counts: Ten White-throated Sparrows were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 4 May 2014 (DNS); 15 birds were there on 12 May 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Mid-April to late May and September/October are the peaks of migration.

HARRIS'S SPARROW

(*Zonotrichia querula*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Harris's Sparrows use brush and small tree rows in or adjacent to cropland and mixed-grass prairie habitat. They also use feedlots and bird feeders.

High Counts: Twenty Harris's Sparrows were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 4 May 2014 (DNS); another 20 were at Sheriff Dam the same day (DNS). Fifty Harris's Sparrows were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 29 September 2014 (DNS).

Remarks: Harris's Sparrow (Figure 86) migration occurs from mid-April to late May and mid-September to mid-October. A late bird was near Sioux Bull Pasture on 12 November 2014 (DNS).



Figure 86.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: This sparrow species can be found along fence rows, tree rows, and in brush tangles throughout the checklist area.

High Counts: Forty White-crowned Sparrows were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 4 May 2014 (DNS); another 40 were at Sheriff Dam the same day (DNS).

Remarks: Mid-April to late May and September/October are the peaks of migration.

DARK-EYED JUNCO (*Junco hyemalis*)

Status: Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon but irregular winter resident.

Distribution: Dark-eyed Juncos can be found along fence rows, tree rows, and in brush tangles throughout the checklist area.

Remarks: Juncos may be present from early September through mid-May.

WESTERN TANAGER (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Status: Accidental summer visitor.

Distribution: Western Tanagers use woodland habitat.

Remarks: Terry Sohl found a Western Tanager at Richland Dam on 17 July 2004 (*fide* Scott Stolz). Scott Stolz (pers. comm.) saw a Western Tanager at Sheriff Dam on an unspecified date.

NORTHERN CARDINAL

(*Cardinalis cardinalis*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant and winter visitor.

Distribution: Northern Cardinals use deciduous woodland.

Remarks: Scott Stolz (eBird database) found a Northern Cardinal in the Jones County portion of the checklist area on 16 February 2013. Deirdre Robinson found two Northern Cardinals in the Lyman Co. portion of the checklist area on 22 April 2005 (eBird database). Dan Svingen photographed a Northern Cardinal (Figure 87) adjacent to Sheriff Dam on 30 August 2014; the bird was there until at least 4 September 2014.



Figure 87.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK*(Pheucticus ludovicianus)***Status:** Rare spring migrant.**Distribution:** Rose-breasted Grosbeaks use deciduous woodland.**Remarks:** Spring migration occurs from early to late May. Fall migration occurs from late August to late September.

Doug Backlund photographed a Rose-breasted Grosbeak (Figure 88) at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 15 May 2014. He found two male Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at Sheriff Dam on 15 May 2014 and a female at Sheriff Dam on 17 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.).

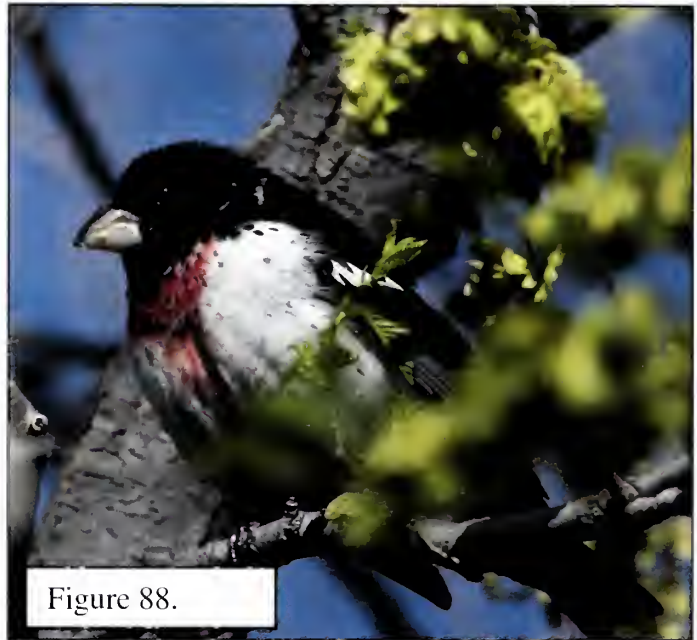


Figure 88.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK*(Pheucticus melanocephalus)***Status:** Casual spring migrant.**Distribution:** Black-headed Grosbeaks use deciduous woodland.**Remarks:** Spring migration occurs from early to late May. The only local record pertains to a bird in Cookstove Shelterbelt on 17 May 2014 (RM).**BLUE GROSBEAK** *(Passerina caerulea)***Status:** Rare spring migrant and summer resident, casual fall migrant.**Distribution:** Blue Grosbeaks use deciduous woodland habitat.**Nesting Records:** This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

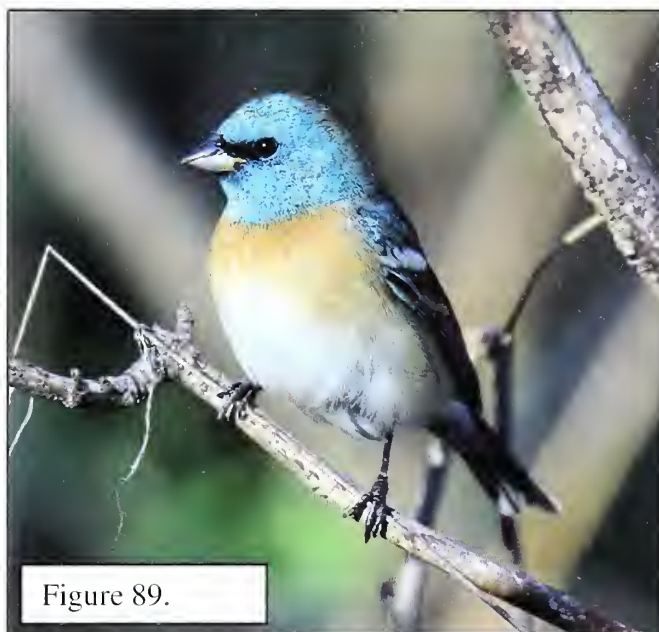
Remarks: A bird was seen on 21 August 2012 at Reed Ranch Dam (Scott Stolz pers. comm.). Immature (i.e. one-year old) males were at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 24 May and 5 June 2014 (RM, DNS) and at Richland Dam on 12 July 2014 (DNS). Adult pairs of Blue Grosbeaks were seen near Sand Creek Fall Pasture on 1 June 2014 (DNS) and 20 August 2014 (RM); at Richland Dam on 22 June 2014 (DNS), and at Cookstove Shelterbelt 20 May 2015 (DNS, RM). An adult Blue Grosbeak male was at Sheriff Dam on 13 July 2015 (DNS).

LAZULI BUNTING (*Passerina amoena*)

Status: Casual spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Lazuli Buntings use deciduous woodland.

Remarks: This species (Figure 89) migrates north in May. The only records to date are of single adult males near Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 20 May 2015 (Noel Henriksen pers. comm.) and at Knoblock Dam on 27 May 2015 (DNS); and of a hatch-year female at Cookstove Shelterbelt on 1 September 2015 (DNS).

**INDIGO BUNTING** (*Passerina cyanea*)

Status: Casual spring migrant and summer visitor.

Distribution: Deciduous woodland is the preferred habitat for Indigo Buntings.

Remarks: This species migrates north in May and breeds nearby before migrating south in August and September. A bird was in the Bad River East Pasture on 26 May 2014 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database). Mary Anne Romito found an Indigo Bunting in the Stanley County portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland on 30 July 2014 (eBird database).

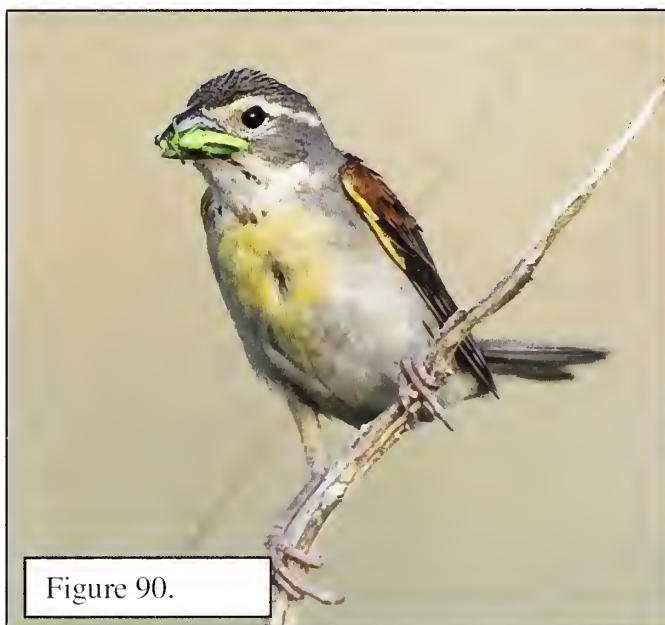
DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*)

Status: Common but irregular spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Dickcissels use the densest mesic grassland habitats available in the checklist area.

Nesting Records: Doug Backlund photographed a food-carrying female (Figure 90) in the Bomber South Pasture on 4 July 2006. Dan Svingen photographed a food-carrying female in the Stony Butte Pasture on the surprisingly late date of 25 August 2014; even more surprising was the food-carrying female in Bomber South Pasture on 30 August 2014 (DNS).

High Counts: Twenty Dickcissels were near Sheriff Dam on 21 August 2014 (DNS).



Remarks: Watch for Dickcissels from late May to early September. Breeding activities are concentrated in June and July.

BOBOLINK (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)

Status: Common spring migrant and summer resident, uncommon fall migrant.

Distribution: Bobolinks use mesic mixed-grass prairie, croplands, hayfields, and idle grasslands.

Nesting Records: Dan Svingen photographed a food-carrying male (Figure 91) in the Mueller A Pasture on 19 July 2014.

Remarks: Bobolinks arrive in early to mid-May and start departing in late July. Practically no birds are present by mid-September. Breeding activities are concentrated between early June and mid-July.

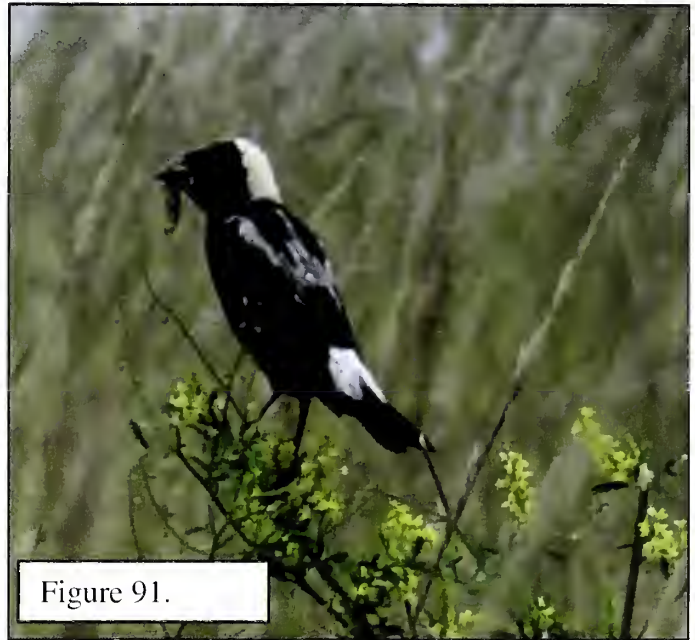


Figure 91.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant and summer resident, rare but irregular winter resident.

Distribution: Red-winged Blackbirds nest at wetlands with cattail and/or bulrush stands.

During the non-breeding season, this species is often found in trees bordering agricultural fields.

Nesting Records: Nest and fledglings of this species are encountered annually in the checklist area. For example, a dependent fledgling was at Richland Dam on 22 June 2014 (DNS).

High Counts: Three hundred Red-winged Blackbirds were near the Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 9 January 2015 (DNS). Scott Stolz found 750 birds in the Stanley Co. portion of the checklist area on 30 August 2012 (eBird database).

Remarks: Red-winged Blackbirds are regularly present from mid-March to late October. Breeding occurs between mid-May and late July.

WESTERN MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella neglecta*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant and summer resident, casual winter resident.

Distribution: Western Meadowlark use mixed-grass prairie.

Nesting Records: Dan Svingen photographed a Western Meadowlark nest with two eggs in Sioux Bull Pasture on 22 May 2013.

High Counts: Jennifer Rycenga found 107 Western Meadowlarks in the Lyman Co., portion of the checklist area on 4 July 2006 (eBird database).

Remarks: Spring migrants typically arrive in mid-March. Most birds depart by mid-October. Early May to mid-July is the peak of the breeding season. Following a very mild fall in 2015, several meadowlarks attempted to winter locally, including the 8 seen 30 December 2015 (DNS) near the Cookstove Pasture.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)

Status: Common spring migrant, fairly common summer resident and fall migrant.

Distribution: Yellow-headed Blackbirds nest at wetlands with cattail and/or bulrush stands. During the non-breeding season, this species is most often found in trees bordering agricultural fields.

Nesting Records: Elizabeth Pokrivka noted adult Yellow-headed Blackbird carrying nest material at Reese Dam on 2 June 2009; a fledgling was found nearby on 19 July 2009 (Drilling 2014). Dependent fledglings were noted at Mueller Dam on 19 July 2014 (DNS) and at a dam in the Richland East Pasture on 25 August 2015 (CE).

High Counts: Scott Stolz found 150 birds in the Stanley Co. portion of the checklist area on 30 August 2012 (eBird database).

Remarks: Yellow-headed Blackbird migration peaks in April and September, some birds remain into October. Breeding activity is at its peak from mid-May to mid-July.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD

(*Euphagus carolinus*)

Status: Casual fall migrant and winter visitor.

Distribution: Rusty Blackbirds are most often found in trees bordering wetlands, cropland or feedlots.

Remarks: Migrants pass through central South Dakota in March and early April and again in October and early November. Ruben Mares photographed one (Figure 92) of the three bird near Bad River ³/₄ Pasture on 10 November 2015. Scott Stolz found a Rusty Blackbird at War Creek Dam on 16 February 2013 (eBird database).

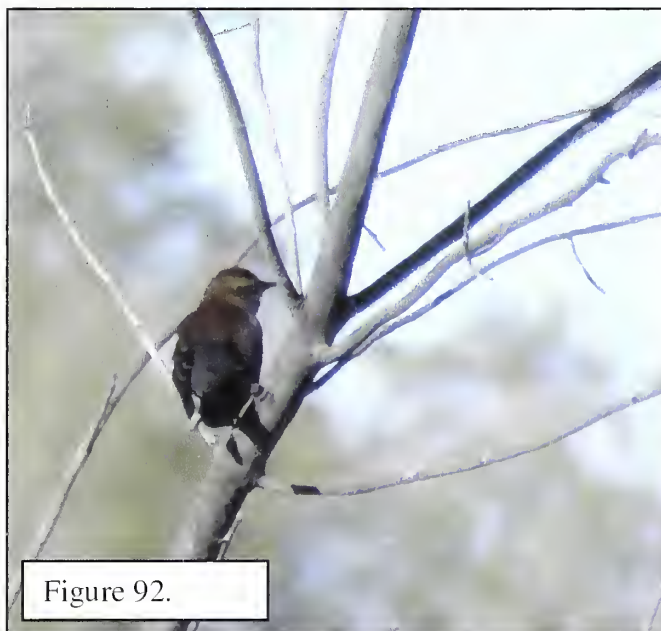


Figure 92.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Distribution: Brewer's Blackbirds use cropland, mixed-grass prairie, and woodland.

High Counts: A flock of 50 Brewer's Blackbirds was in cropland adjacent to Sheriff Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS); 300 were near Number Two SE Pasture on 20 October 2015 (DNS, Nick Lowrey). Ruben Mares photographed some of the 150 birds in Reservation Winter Pasture on 10 November 15 (DNS, RM).

Remarks: Brewer's Blackbird migration peaks in April, September and October. Four relatively late birds were near Sioux Bull Pasture on 12 November 2014 (DNS). Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory staff recorded six (6) Brewer's Blackbirds in Alkali Middle Pasture on 17 May 2011 (Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory database).

COMMON GRACKLE

(*Quiscalus quiscula*)

Status: Common spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Common Grackles use all of the checklist area's habitats. They are most frequently seen in or near woodland, cropland, and at farmsteads.

Nesting Records: This species is annually found nesting at large patches of conifers throughout the checklist area. Dan Svingen photographed a food-carrying male Common Grackle (Figure 93) at the Cookstove Shelterbelt on 22 June 2014.

High Counts: Fifty Common Grackles were at Sheriff Dam on 4 May 2014 (DNS). On 17 October 2014, 160 were there (DNS).

Remarks: Birds typically arrive in late March with most birds departing by mid-October.



Figure 93.

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater*)

Status: Abundant spring and fall migrant and summer resident.

Distribution: Brown-headed Cowbirds can be found throughout the checklist area.

Nesting Records: Dependent Brown-headed Cowbird fledglings are seen in the checklist area each year.

High Counts: A flock of 800 Brown-headed Cowbirds was in the Bad River Three-quarters Pasture on 8 August 2014 (DNS). Scott Stolz found 450 birds in the Stanley Co. portion of the checklist area on 30 August 2012 (eBird database).

Remarks: This species is present from early April until mid-August, when numbers start falling quickly. In most years, it is completely absent by late September. The peak of the breeding

season is from late May to mid-July.

ORCHARD ORIOLE

(*Icterus spurius*)

Status: Common spring migrant and summer resident, uncommon fall migrant.

Distribution: Orchard Orioles should be looked for in deciduous woodland.

Nesting Records: An active nest was found at Richland Dam on 22 June 2014 (DNS). Dan Svingen photographed a dependent fledgling (Figure 94) at Sheriff Dam on 13 July 2015.

High Counts: Nine Orchard Orioles were at Sheriff Dam on 19 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.). Three birds were at Richland Dam on 24 August 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Orchard Orioles do not arrive in numbers until mid-May, numbers then fall quickly after late July. The species is largely absent after late August. Two relatively late birds were at Sheriff Dam on 2 September 2014 (DNS). The peak of the breeding season is from early June to mid-July.



Figure 94.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*)

Status: Uncommon spring and fall migrant, rare summer resident or visitor.

Distribution: Baltimore Orioles use deciduous woodland.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be confirmed as a local nester.

High Counts: Seven Baltimore Orioles were in Williams North Howe Pasture along Timber Creek on 23 May 2014 (Doug Backlund pers. comm.); three Baltimore Orioles were at Richland Dam on 24 August 2015 (DNS).

Remarks: Baltimore Orioles migrate in May and August. The likely peak of the breeding season is from early June to early July. Nancy Drilling found a singing male at Cottonwood Dam on 15 June 2011 (Drilling 2014). Another singing male was along 226th Street at the north end of Farlow Hay ½ Section Pasture on 1 June 2014 (DNS). A male was at Sheriff Dam on 13 July 2015 (DNS).

GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCH

(*Leucosticte tephrocotis*)

Status: Accidental fall migrant.

Distribution: Suitable habitats for this species within the checklist area includes: grassland, cropland, and feeders.

Remarks: The sole local record of Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch pertains to six birds photographed (Figure 95) by Lynn Barber near the Cookstove Pasture the intersection of County Line Road and US Highway 83 on 15 November 2012.



Figure 95.

HOUSE FINCH

(*Haemorhous mexicanus*)

Status: Uncommon year-round resident or visitor.

Distribution: House Finches use woodland habitats, most often at farmsteads.

Nesting Records: This species has yet to be documented as a local nester.

High Counts: Six House Finches were at Sheriff Dam on 9 October 2015 (DNS).

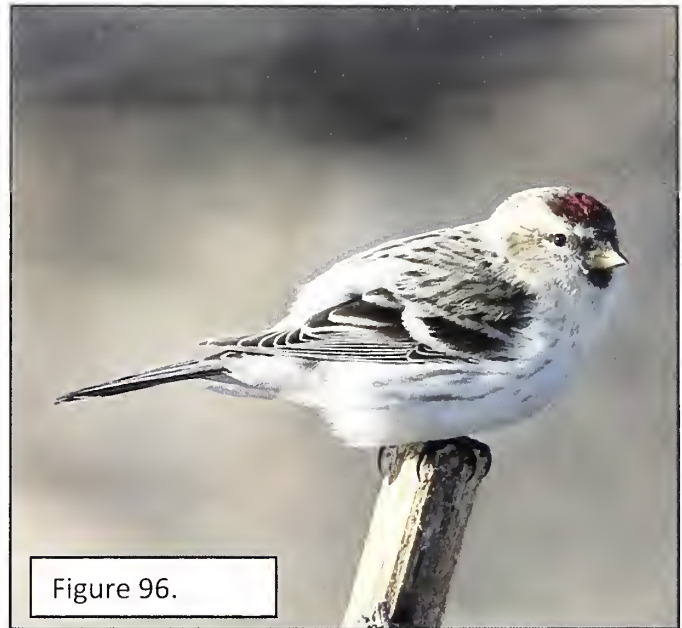
Remarks: The likely breeding season is from May to July.

COMMON REDPOLL (*Acanthis flammea*)

Status: Uncommon but irregular spring and fall migrant and winter resident.

Distribution: Common Redpolls use “weedy” habitats in mixed-grass prairie, such as tree rows, fence rows, and the margins of agricultural fields. They are especially attracted to sunflower fields.

Remarks: Common Redpolls might be found from late October to late March.

HOARY REDPOLL*(Acanthis hornemanni)***Status:** Casual winter resident.**Distribution:** Hoary and Common Redpolls use the same habitats.**Remarks:** Doug Backlund photographed a Hoary Redpoll (Figure 96) along County Line Road near the Butte Smith Pasture on 20 January 2009. Scott Stolz found a Hoary Redpoll in the Jones County portion of the checklist area on 16 February 2013 (eBird database).**PINE SISKIN** *(Spinus pinus)***Status:** Casual fall migrant.**Distribution:** Pine Siskins are most often found in woodland, but use cropland and mixed-grass prairie as well.**Remarks:** The only local records are of 8 birds at Sheriff Dam on 6 November 2014 and 3 birds there on both 6 and 20 October 2015 (all sightings DNS).**AMERICAN GOLDFINCH** *(Spinus tristis)***Status:** Fairly common spring and fall migrant, uncommon summer resident, uncommon but irregular winter resident.**Distribution:** American Goldfinches use all of the checklist area's habitats, but are most regularly found in deciduous woodland. In winter, the species can also be found at sunflower fields and at farmsteads, especially at feeders.**Nesting Records:** Dan Svingen photographed a recently-used nest at Sheriff Dam on 26 August 2014; an American Goldfinch pair had been in attendance there earlier in the month (DNS).**Remarks:** Breeding activity peaks from early July to early September.**HOUSE SPARROW** *(Passer domesticus)***Status:** Common year-round resident.**Distribution:** The House Sparrow is generally restricted to farmsteads, where it uses feeders, deciduous and coniferous plantings, barns, and feedlots among a wide variety of other habitats.**Nesting Records:** This species is known to nest annually within the checklist area; Ricky Olson found an occupied nest near Bass Dam on 5 June 2010 (Drilling 2014). A food-carrying female House Sparrow was in the 50/50 East Pasture on 8 August 2014 (DNS).**Remarks:** The peak of breeding is May to July.

WHERE TO BIRD

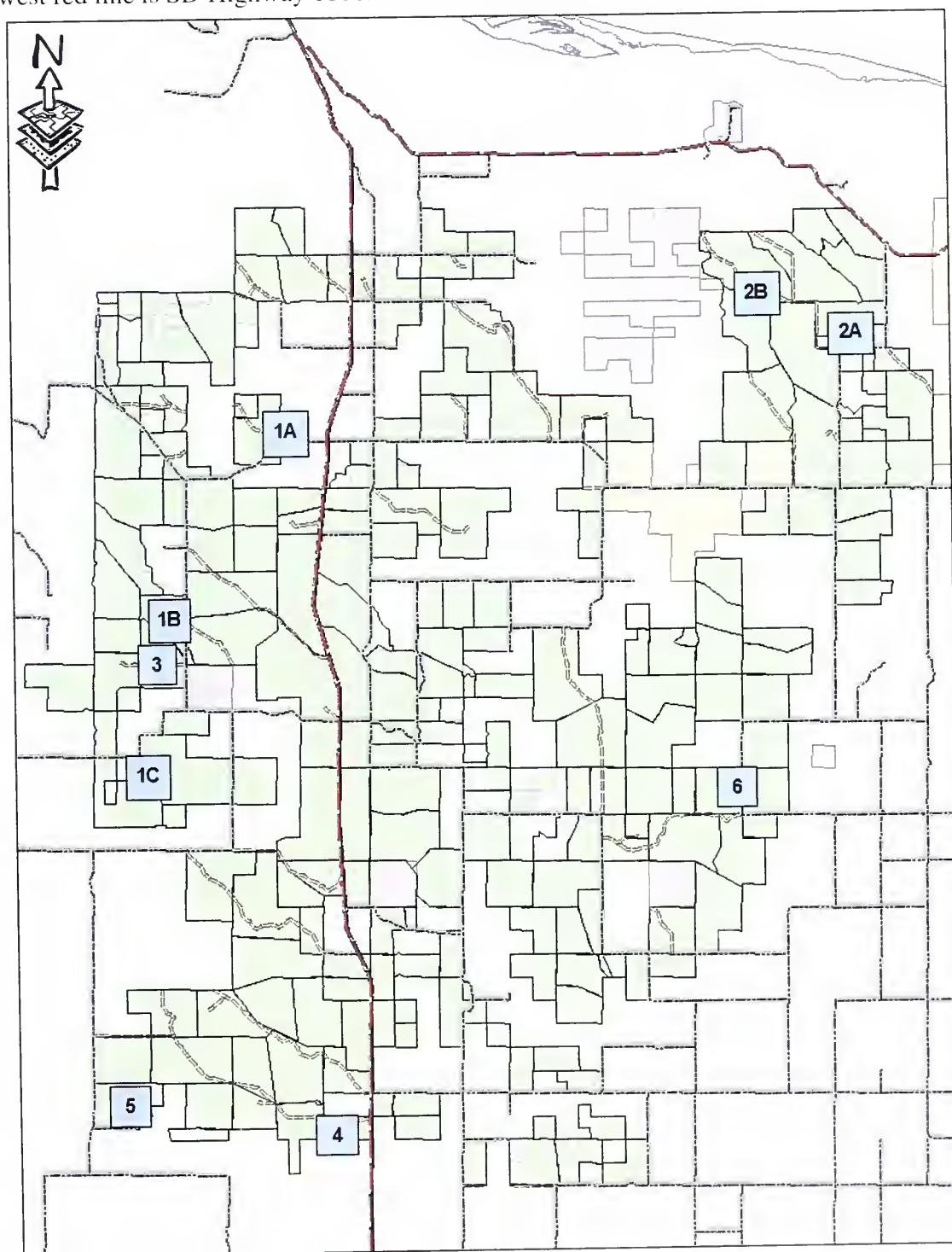
Many birders visit the Fort Pierre National Grassland to observe the courtship dances of Greater Prairie-Chickens and Sharp-tailed Grouse. In April and May, the Ranger District provides viewing blinds (Figure 97) that you can reserve by calling the Fort Pierre Ranger District at: 605-224-5517. Note that these blinds often book-up early, so advance calling is highly recommended.

Additional birding locations are shown in Figure 98, and described below.

Figure 97. Ruben Mares, Fort Pierre Ranger District, showing a grouse observation blind.



Figure 98. General locations of specific birding sites described in following text. 1A= Cookstove Shelterbelt/Dam, 1B= Richland Shelterbelt/Dam, 1C= Sheriff Shelterbelt/Dam; 2A=Forest Service Road 206, 2B=Forest Service Road 251, 3=Forest Service Road 224, 4=Forest Service Road 227, 5= Mueller Dam, 6=Reed Ranch Shelterbelt/Dam. Green colored blocks are National Forest System lands. The north-south red line is US Highway 83, the east-west red line is SD Highway 1806. $\frac{1}{4}$ "= 1 mile



Cookstove, Richland, and Sheriff Dams

The most easily accessible opportunities for woodland birding in the checklist area are the shelterbelts at Cookstove, Richland, and Sheriff Dams (see Figure 98, sites 1A, 1B, 1C). To get there from the Forest Service office in Fort Pierre, follow US Highway 83 south for 11.5 miles then turn right (west) onto War Creek Road (Figure 98). In one mile you will cross a cattle guard; the Cookstove Shelterbelt is on your right (north); you will have to cross a barbed-wire fence to reach the trees (Figure 100).

For more birding, continue driving west on War Creek Road. In another 2.3 miles, turn left (south) onto 286th Ave. In 3.5 more miles you will reach the entrance to the Richland Dam Recreation Site (Figure 101) on the right (west). To reach nearby Sheriff Dam, continue south on 286th Ave. for another 1.5 miles. At the "T" intersection, turn right (west) onto 226th Street. The road jogs west and south (Figure 99) for 2 miles before reaching the entrance into Sheriff Dam (Figure 102).

The shelterbelts at Cookstove Dam, Richland Dam, and Sheriff Dam (Figure 103) are all worth checking during migration. In addition to migrant warblers, unusual species found at these locations have included Black-billed Cuckoo, Broad-winged Hawk, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Northern Mockingbird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Townsend's Solitaire.

During the nesting season, watch for: American Goldfinches, American Robins, Blue Grosbeaks, Brown Thrashers, Common Grackles, Eastern Kingbirds, House Wrens, Northern Rough-winged Swallows (over the adjacent stockponds), Orchard Orioles, Western Kingbirds, Willow Flycatchers, and Yellow Warblers.

In winter, the Cookstove, Richland, and Sheriff shelterbelts are sometimes birdless. Nonetheless they offer the best chance of finding the following species on the Fort Pierre National Grassland itself: American Robin, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Cedar Waxwing, Downy Woodpecker, Great Horned Owl, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, and Northern Goshawk.

Figure 99. Map showing vicinity of Cookstove, Richland, and Sheriff Dams and Shelterbelts. Green colored blocks are National Forest System lands. 1"=1 mile.

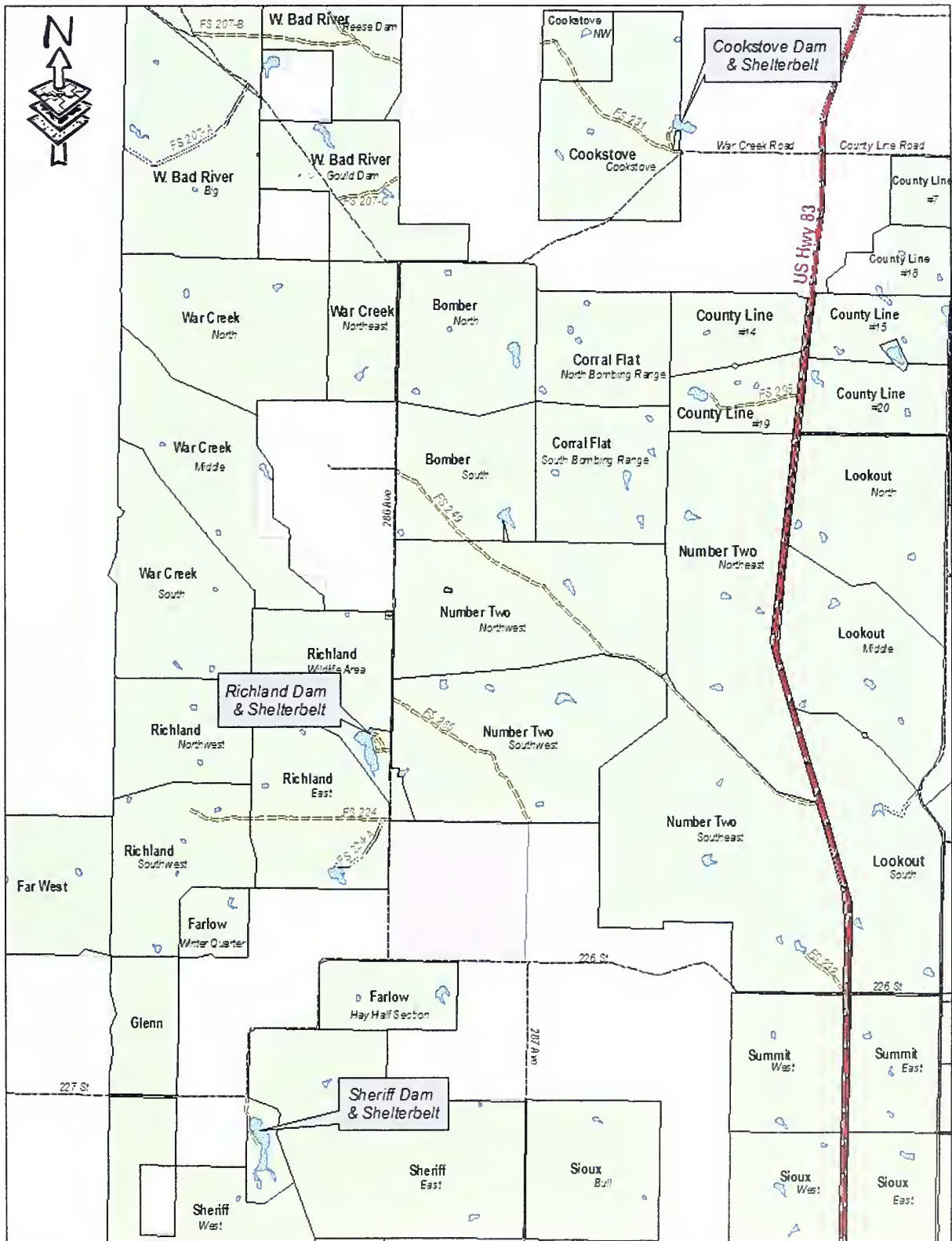


Figure 100. Looking north to Cookstove Shelterbelt.



Figure 101. Looking west into the entrance to the Richland Dam Recreation Site.



Figure 102. Entrance into Sheriff Dam Recreation Site.



Figure 103. Looking northerly along Sheriff Shelterbelt.



Forest Service Roads 206 and 251

The Fort Pierre National Grassland's highest concentration of Black-tailed Prairie Dogs (Figure 104), and Prairie Dog hunters (both human and avian) is in the northeastern corner of the Grassland (see Figure 98, sites 2A and 2B). To access this area from the Forest Service office in Fort Pierre, follow US Highway 83 south for 2.6 miles, then turn left (east) onto SD Highway 1806. In another 14.5 miles, zero your trip mileage, then turn right (south) onto the Presho Road (a.k.a. County Road 22, a.k.a. 303 Ave.). At mile 2.2, follow Presho Road as it curves right (west). At mile 3.2, continue straight (west) onto Forest Service Road 206 (Figures 105, 106). From here you can wander along Forest Service Roads 206, 206A, 251, and 251A for a total of 11 miles (Figure 105). Note that Forest Service Roads 206A (which goes to West Dam) and 251A (which goes to Trophy Dam) are only open for motorized use from 1 December to 31 August.

The mixed-grass prairie habitat in this area supports nesting species such as: Chestnut-collared Longspur, Grasshopper Sparrow, Upland Sandpiper, and Western Meadowlark. Waterfowl and Pied-billed Grebes are often present at Trophy and West Dams (Figure 105). The large prairie dog colony (Figure 107) along Forest Service Road 206 is used by Burrowing Owls, Ferruginous Hawks, Golden Eagles, and Prairie Falcons.

Figure 104. A “barking” Black-tailed Prairie Dog.



Figure 105. Map showing vicinity of Forest Service (FS) Roads 206, 206A, 251, and 251A. Green colored blocks are National Forest System lands. 2"=1 mile.

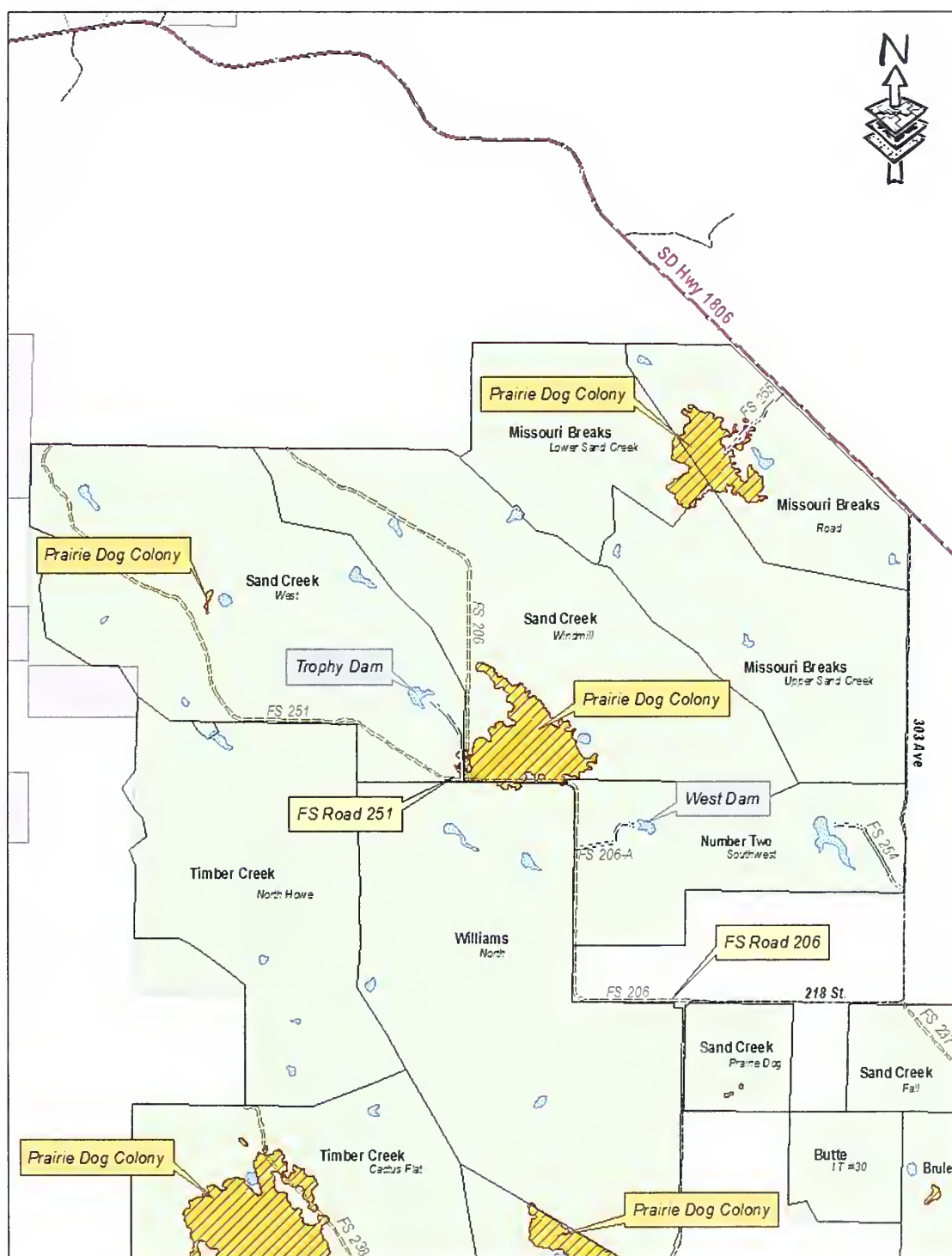
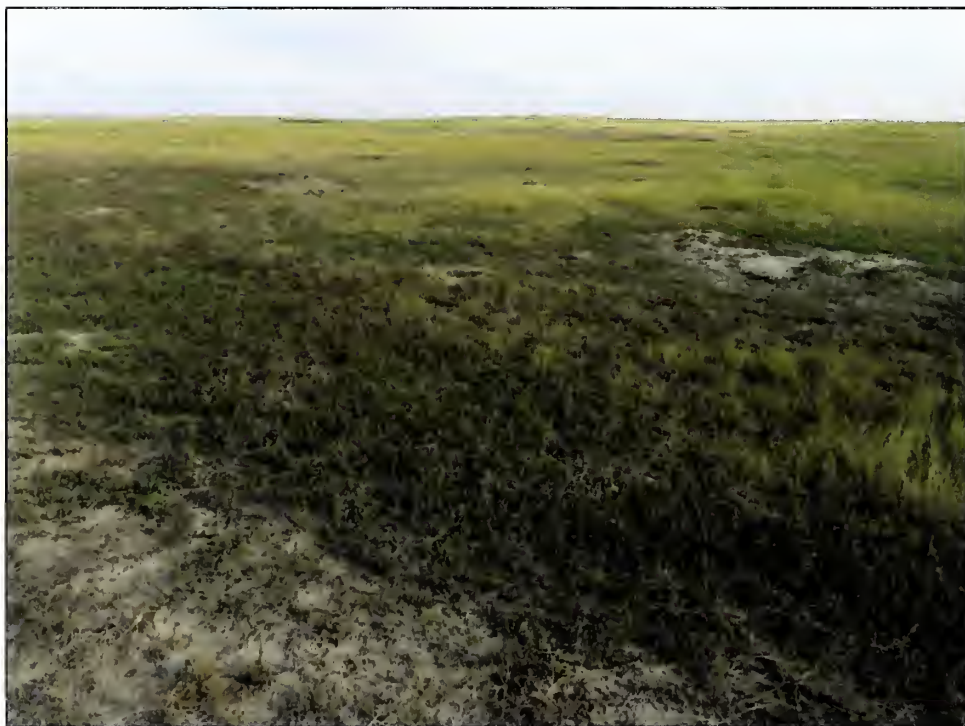


Figure 106. Looking northwesterly from beginning of Forest Service Road 206.



Figure 107. Black-tailed Prairie Dog colony along Forest Service Road 206.



Forest Service Road 224

A sampling of mixed-grass prairie, prairie dog colony, and wetland habitats can be found a mile south of Richland Dam (see Figure 98, site 3). To find this area (Figure 108) from the Forest Service office in Ft. Pierre, follow US Highway 83 south for 17.5 miles. Zero your trip mileage, then turn right (west) onto 226th St. At mile 3.5, turn right (north) onto 286th Avenue. At mile 4.5 you will see the start of Forest Service Road 224 on the left (west) side of the road. This 1.5 mile-long two-track road is open to public use year-round. It passes through typical grassland habitat (Figure 109) before ending just beyond a Black-tailed Prairie Dog colony. Sprague's Pipits have been seen at this location numerous times during fall migration. Burrowing Owls are often present; other raptor species might include Ferruginous Hawk and Golden Eagle. Bird species likely to be found here during summer include: Bobolink, Grasshopper Sparrow, Marbled Godwit, Upland Sandpiper, and Western Meadowlark.

From 1 December to 31 August you can also drive 0.8-mile long Forest Service Road 224A to access War Creek Dam (Figure 110). Look there for migrant warblers, waterfowl, and Pied-billed Grebes. War Creek Dam is also a good place to watch for American White Pelicans, Belted Kingfishers, Double-crested Cormorants, and Great Blue Herons.

Figure 108. Map of vicinity of Forest Service (FS) Road 224. Green colored blocks are National Forest System lands. 2.25"= 1 mile.

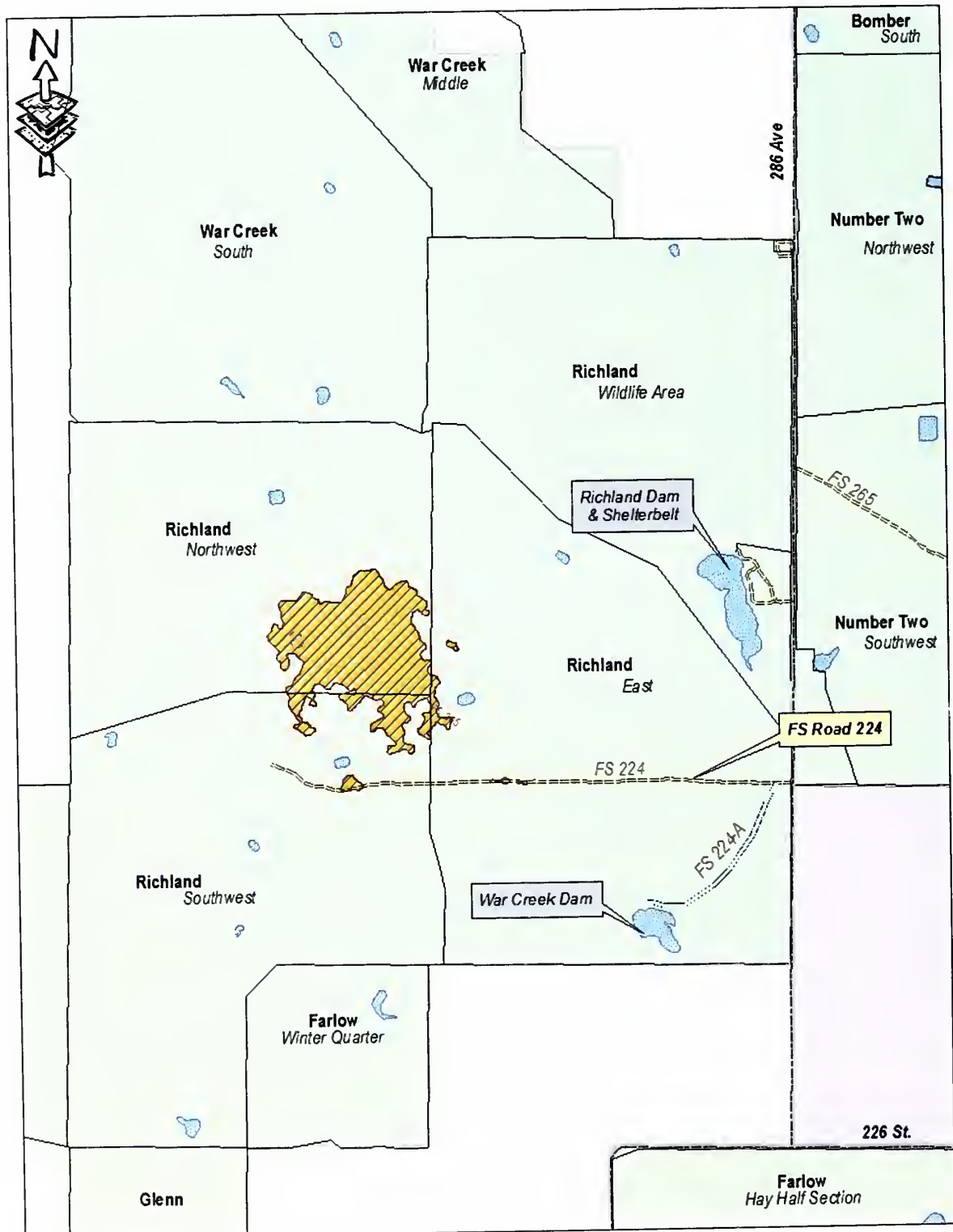


Figure 109. Looking northwesterly along Forest Service Road 224 from Richland East Pasture into Richland Southwest Pasture.



Figure 110. War Creek Dam.



Forest Service Road 227

If you have a high-clearance vehicle and are visiting when two-track roads (Figure 111) are dry and accessible, consider driving through the southwestern portion of the Fort Pierre National Grassland (see Figure 98, site 4). To begin your exploration from Interstate 90 Exit #212 near Vivian, South Dakota, follow US Highway 83 north 6.5 miles. Zero your trip mileage, then turn left (west) onto Forest Service Road 227 (Figures 111, 112). This two-track road passes through typical mixed-grass prairie (Figure 113).

Bird species to watch for in this area include: Brown-headed Cowbird, Grasshopper Sparrow, Greater Prairie-chicken, Marbled Godwit, Northern Harrier, Red-tailed Hawk, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Short-eared Owl, Swainson's Hawk, Upland Sandpiper, and Western Meadowlark. At about mile 3.8, you will cross into the Stockton Middle Pasture (Figure 114). This is often the most reliable spot on the Fort Pierre National Grassland to find summering Chestnut-collared Longspurs. You will reach the west end of this pasture at mile 5.2. From here you can turn-around to return to US Highway 83 or continue west along the section line two-track road to reach Angus Drive at mile 6.2, a convenient location for reaching Mueller Dam (see Figure 98, site 5).

Figure 111. Looking west to east entrance of Forest Service Road 227.



Figure 112. Map showing vicinity of Forest Service Road 227. 1.25"=1 mile.

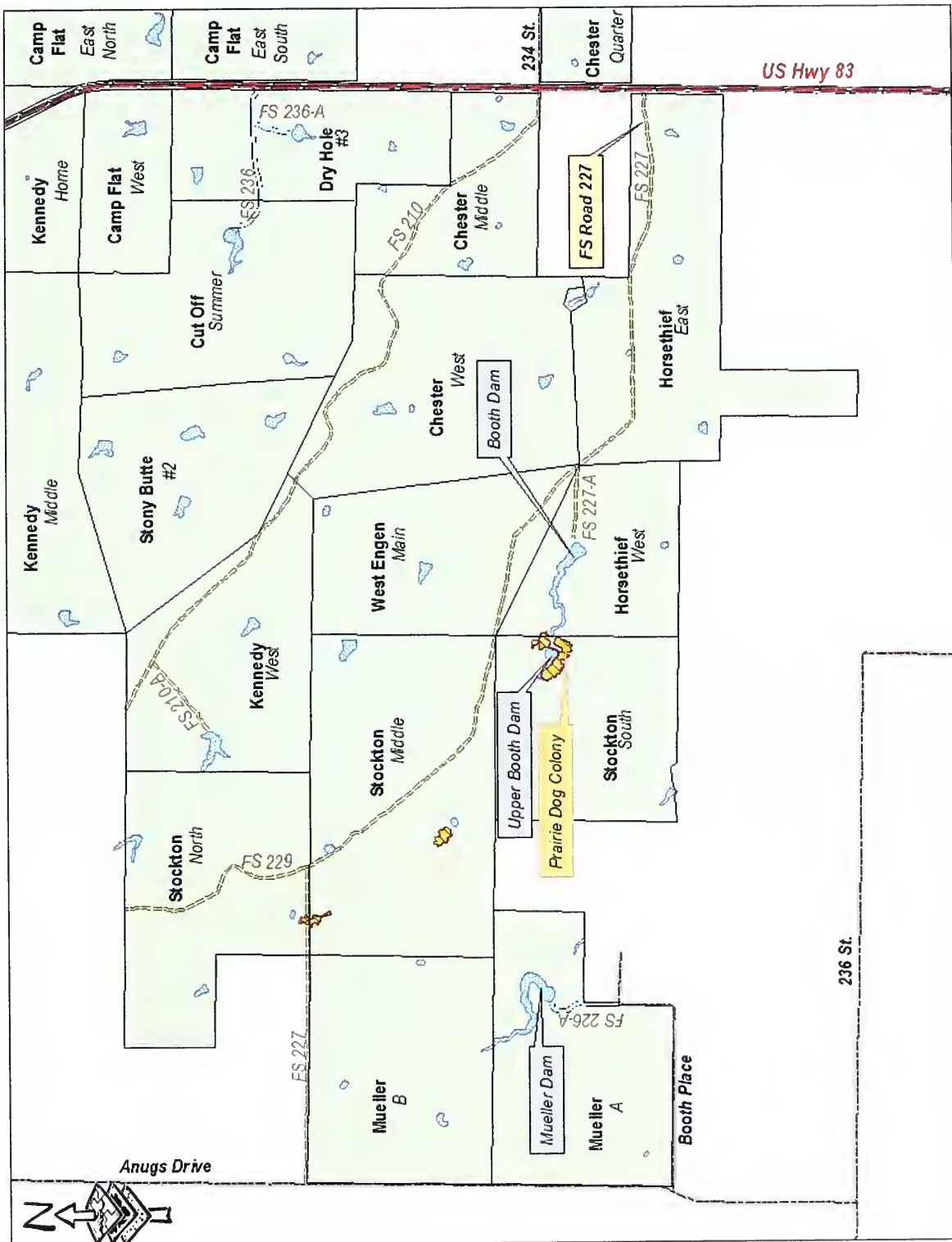


Figure 113. East entrance to West Engen Pasture along Forest Service Road 227.



Figure 114. East entrance to Stockton Middle Pasture along Forest Service Road 227.



Mueller Dam

One of the birdiest wetland habitat areas on the Fort Pierre National Grassland is found at and near Mueller Dam (Figures 113 and 114, see also Figure 98 site 5). To get there from Interstate 90 Exit #212 near Vivian, South Dakota, follow US Highway 83 north 2.5 miles, zero your mileage and then turn left (west) onto 238th Street. At mile 7.1, turn right (north) on 284th Ave. At mile 9.1, turn right (east) onto 235th Street (a.k.a. Booth Place). At mile 10.1, turn north onto 286th Ave. (a.k.a. Booth Place). In just 0.25 mile you will reach the gate across Forest Service Road 226A (Figure 115). That 0.5-mile long two-track road is open for public motorized use from 1 December to 31 August each year.

Forest Service Road 226A passes by a large playa (Figures 115 and 117) before ending at Mueller Dam (Figure 118). Depending on water levels, these two water bodies can attract a wide variety of species. Look especially for: American Avocet, American Bittern, American White Pelican, Black Tern, Black-crowned Night-heron, Double-crested Cormorant, Eared and Pied-billed Grebes, Great Blue Heron, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Red-winged and Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Redhead, Ruddy Duck, Sora, Virginia Rail, and Wilson's Phalarope. The surrounding uplands host Bobolinks, Grasshopper Sparrows, Greater Prairie-chickens, Marbled Godwits, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Upland Sandpipers, and Western Meadowlarks.

Figure 115. Looking north to south entrance of Forest Service Road 227. Note playa in background.



Figure 116. Map of Mueller Dam vicinity. 2.25"=1 mile.



Figure 117. Playa in Mueller A Pasture.



Figure 118. Mueller Dam.



Reed Ranch

Reed Ranch (Figure 98, site 6) was the site of a research facility from the 1930s to the 1960s. Studies focused on the effect of selenium on livestock. The remnant shelterbelt is the largest patch of woodland for a considerable distance, and as such functions as a migrant trap.

To find this isolated spot (Figure 119) from Interstate 90 Exit #212 near Vivian, South Dakota, follow US Highway 83 north 6.5 miles. Zero your trip mileage, then turn right (east) onto 234th Street. At mile 12, turn left (north) onto Presho Road. At mile 18, Presho Road curves left (west) for one mile. At mile 19, continue straight (west) onto the unimproved (i.e. two-track) portion of 228th Street. At mile 21.5, you will see Reed Ranch Dam (Figure 120) on the right (north) side of the road. A Greater Prairie-chicken lek is often present somewhere on the shoreline. The reservoir itself should be checked for grebes and waterfowl. Continuing west to mile 22, turn right (north) onto 300th Avenue. You will reach the Reed Ranch Shelterbelt (Figure 121) at mile 22.7. You will have to cross a barbed-wire fence to access the trees on either side of the road.

Bird species to look for here in summer include: Brown Thrasher, Great Horned Owl, House Wren, Red-tailed Hawk, and Willow Flycatcher. Rarities found at the Reed Ranch Shelterbelt have included: Broad-winged Hawk, Sage Thrasher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

For additional birding, continue to follow 300th Avenue north another 1.3 miles, but note that you will be passing through private land (see Figure 119; please restrict your birding to the roadway when passing through private property). At mile 24, turn right (east) onto 226th Street, reentering National Forest System land for one mile. At mile 25, consider parking and walking north along the fenceline about 0.2 mile to check out the small stockpond that bisects the fence (Figure 119). This small stockpond is often quite birdy, with the surrounding Black-tailed Prairie Dog colony usually being occupied by Burrowing Owls.

To exit this area, rejoin the Presho Road (a.k.a. 302 Ave.) and follow it as it winds northeast 11 miles to reach SD Highway 1806.

Figure 119. Map of Reed Ranch vicinity. 1.75"=1 mile.



Figure 120. Looking northwesterly across Reed Ranch Dam to Reed Ranch Shelterbelt.



Figure 121. Reed Ranch shelterbelt.



BIRD-RELATED RESEARCH

Several bird-related research projects have been conducted in the checklist area. A brief summary of follows.

Breeding Bird Atlas:

Richard A. Peterson published South Dakota's first breeding bird atlas in 1995. That book (Peterson 1995) was based on thousands of hours of field work conducted across the state by volunteer observers who searched for evidence of nesting within randomly chosen townships. In 2008, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory initiated a new breeding bird atlas with even larger sample sizes, statewide. As of this writing, the Second South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas is still in preparation for publication. Project lead, Nancy Drilling, kindly made data collected in the checklist area available for this publication. For more information, visit the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory website: <http://www.rmbo.org/SDBBA2/>.

Burrowing Owl Monitoring:

Burrowing Owls have declined throughout the northern portion of their range. Surveys on the National Grasslands in 1997 showed that only some of the Black-tailed Prairie Dog colonies were occupied by Burrowing Owls (Sidle et al. 2001). From 2006-2010, Dr. Martha Desmond led a team of New Mexico State University researchers on an intensive study of the Fort Pierre National Grassland's Burrowing Owl population as part of a large-scale effort throughout the Great Plains. Part of that study used stable hydrogen isotope markers in Burrowing Owl feathers to investigate owl dispersal. For more information on that aspect, see Dominguez 2010. Other results are pending.

In 2010 and 2011, Jason Thiele found that Burrowing Owls in western South Dakota (including those on the Fort Pierre National Grassland) selected nest sites in landscapes with little tree cover. At the micro-site levels, the birds used prairie dog burrows surrounded by a relatively high percent of forb cover, bare ground, and low visual obstruction readings. For more information on this study, see Thiele 2012 and Thiele et al. 2013.

Christmas Bird Counts:

Since 1900, birders have met at specific locations across the United States and Canada to census winter birds as part of a Christmas Bird Count (CBC). The Pierre/Ft. Pierre CBC was established in 1970. To download that information, visit the National Audubon Society's website (<http://audubon2.org/birds/cbc/.html>).

Grassland Bird Ecology:

In summers 1995 and 1996, Shawn Fritcher censused bird and small mammal populations on the Fort Pierre National Grassland. He found that while overall bird species richness did not differ among grassland seral stage, Bobolinks, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Dickcissels, and Grasshopper

Sparrows increased from low to high seral stage, whereas Burrowing Owls, Chestnut-collared Longspurs, Horned Larks, and Upland Sandpipers decreased. For more information, see Fritcher 1998 and Fritcher et al. 2004.

In summers 2007 and 2008, Mitch Greer studied grassland bird habitat needs within the mixed-grass prairies of north-central South Dakota. Study results showed that the occurrence and density of grassland-obligate birds were influenced by numerous habitat characteristics and at multiple scales. Exotic plant species had a negative effect on Chestnut-collared Longspurs, Grasshopper Sparrows, Lark Bunting, and Western Meadowlarks, but had a positive effect on Bobolinks. At the patch level, Chestnut-collared Longspurs, Grasshopper and Savannah sparrows, Sprague's Pipits, and Western Meadowlarks were negatively affected by woody species. More information is available in Greer 2009 and Greer et al. 2009.

Grassland Bird Surveys:

Since 2009, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory crews, funded by a variety of partners, including the U.S. Forest Service, have censused birds on the Fort Pierre National Grassland as part of a multi-state effort to quantify bird populations and trends within Bird Conservation Region #17 (i.e. eastern Montana, eastern Wyoming, and the western Dakotas). For additional details, go online to:

<http://rmbo.org/v3/avian/Projects/IntegratedMonitoringinBirdConservationRegions.aspx>.

Prairie Grouse:

Several research projects have been conducted on the Fort Pierre National Grassland's prairie grouse populations. Rice and Carter (1982) evaluated habitat management on the Fort Pierre National Grassland, concluding that at least 1,000 pounds of residual herbaceous cover was necessary for successful prairie grouse reproduction. Under the management scenarios examined at the time, such levels of residual cover were retained by rest-rotation, winter grazing, and light-livestock-use-bull pasture grazing regimes, but not by deferred-rotation. Fredrickson (1995) assessed prairie grouse survival rates and home range use. Recommendations stressed the need to leave adequate vegetative structure.

Norton (2005) studied reproductive success and brood habitat use of prairie grouse on the Fort Pierre National Grassland. He found that Greater Prairie-chicken broods selected habitat composed of the native Western Wheatgrass and Green Needlegrass (this habitat also had the exotic Japanese Brome present), but avoided habitats composed of Smooth Brome (an exotic grass) and Porcupine Grass. Sharp-tailed Grouse broods selected for habitats with Yellow Sweet Clover, native forbs, and Green Needlegrass, avoiding habitats with the exotic Japanese and Smooth bromes. Norton concluded that the high nesting success and survival rates were likely attributable to the large grassland blocks and rotational grazing regime that provided a mosaic of habitats. He also noted that although use of habitats with exotic plant species occurred, management should focus on increasing the dominance of native plant species.

Kirschenmann (2008) assessed the consequences of dog training on prairie grouse, concluding that impacts were minimal. Other results from that study included observation that prairie grouse hens selected for pastures where no grazing occurred during the prior year or current year. For additional details on this population of Greater Prairie-chickens, see Fredrickson (1995), Rice and Carter (1982), Norton (2005), and Kirschenmann (2008) as well as Flake et al. 2010.

Raptor Surveys:

During the 1990s, raptor nests were systematically recorded by Forest Service personnel; since that time nest locations have been recorded only incidentally.

Since 2009, biologists from the Fort Pierre Ranger District and South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks have conducted winter raptor surveys along three routes across the Fort Pierre National Grassland when road conditions allowed. Routes are/have been surveyed (or attempted to be surveyed) in January and again in February. Raptor numbers have varied widely; for example, in 2009 surveys recorded about 350 raptors while 2010 surveys recorded only about 50 such birds. The large difference between the two years was due almost entirely to numbers of Rough-legged Hawks which in turn were likely responding to differences in vole populations. For more information, contact the Fort Pierre Ranger District (605 224-5517).

Waterfowl Use of Stockponds:

Bue (1956) looked at waterfowl ecology on stockponds in Stanley County in 1950 and 1951. Major breeding species included: American Coot, American Widgeon, Blue-winged Teal, Canada Goose, Gadwall, Mallard, Northern Pintail, and Northern Shoveler. Ponds with grass shorelines were used more than ponds with mud shorelines.

Mack and Flake (1980) examined waterfowl brood use on South Dakota stockponds in western South Dakota, 1973-1976. They reported that brood use was affected by shoreline length, amount of open water, and emergent vegetation, as well as the number of wetlands and the types of land use in the surrounding landscape.

Roberson (1977) also assessed habitat variables affecting breeding waterfowl use of stockponds in western South Dakota. He found that emergent vegetative composition, height, density and interspersed affected various waterfowl species differently, as did physical features such as shoreline length, shoreline irregularity, and pond size.

Rumble and Flake (1983) studied waterfowl brood use of stockponds in and near the checklist area in 1977 and 1978. Blue-winged Teal and Mallard were the most frequently encountered species. Brood use increased with the size of the stockpond, the amount of shallow water area with submersed vegetation, the number of natural wetlands in the surrounding area, and the presence of smartweed and spike rush.

Ruwaldt et al. (1979) conducted a state-wide survey of waterfowl pairs across South Dakota in

1973 and 1974 and found that semipermanent wetlands and stockponds contained proportionally more waterfowl pairs of most species than did other wetland categories. Stockponds were especially favored by Mallards and American Wigeons.

Forest Service personnel have periodically conducted waterfowl surveys on the Fort Pierre National Grassland over the last 30 years. Surveys in 2014 (the most recent survey year) on stockponds larger than 2.5 acres in surface area found that Blue-winged Teal and Mallard were the most common species. Total waterfowl pair density averaged 1.7 pairs/wetland surface acre. Brood density averaged 1.1 broods /wetland surface arce. Hen success averaged 92%. For more information, contact the Fort Pierre Ranger District (605 224-5517).

CORRECTIONS AND UPDATES:

It is our intention to revise this checklist. Please report corrections, updates, unusually large numbers, or unusual sightings to: District Ranger, Fort Pierre Ranger District, 1020 N. Deadwood St., Ft. Pierre, SD 57532. (605) 224-5517.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Several research projects have been conducted in the checklist area, adding greatly to our understanding of the local avifauna. We are grateful to all observers who shared their sightings and/or photographs. Special thanks to Doug Backlund, Glenn Moravek, Ricky Olson, and Scott Stolz who also provided helpful comments on earlier drafts of this manuscript.

FIGURE CREDITS

Table 1. Details on figures shown in this document. FPNG= Fort Pierre National Grassland; USFS = United States Forest Service (https://fsplaces.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/wfrp/find_a_photo.nsf); USFWS=United States Fish and Wildlife Service (<http://digitalmedia.fws.gov/cdm/landingpage/collection/natdiglib>).

FIGURE	DETAILS	SOURCE
Cover	Greater Prairie-chicken	Bob Gress
1	Map of checklist area (northwest)	Kelly Fuoss
2	Map of checklist area (northeast)	Kelly Fuoss
3	Map of checklist area (south)	Kelly Fuoss
4	Fort Pierre Ranger District Office	Dan Svingen
5	Two-track road on the FPNG	Dan Svingen
6	Cropland	Dan Svingen
7	Hayland	Dan Svingen
8	Mixed-grass prairie	Dan Svingen
9	Stockpond	Dan Svingen
10	Dugout	Dan Svingen
11	Playa	Dan Svingen
12	Seasonal emergent wetland	Dan Svingen
13	Natural woodland	Dan Svingen
14	Planted woodland	Dan Svingen
15	Greater White-fronted Goose	Matt Lentsch
16	Cackling Goose	Dan Svingen
17	American Wigeon	USFWS
18	Blue-winged Teal	Gary Foli
19	Canvasback	USFWS
20	Ring-necked Duck	USFWS
21	Ruddy Duck	Dave Herr,

		USFS
22	Gray Partridge, near FPNG's Timber Creek Home Pasture, 22 January 2016	Dan Svingen
23	Wild Turkey, near FPNG's Knoblock Pasture, 16 January 2015	Ryan Cumbow
24	Pied-billed Grebe nest, FPNG, Chester ½ Section N Pasture, 19 June 2014	Ruben Mares
25	Western Grebe, FPNG, Reed Ranch Dam, 29 April 2015	Dan Svingen
26	Clark's Grebe, FPNG, Monument Dam, 27 April 2015	Dan Svingen
27	Great Egrets, FPNG, Wyly Dam, 13 May 2014	Doug Backlund
28	Cattle Egret, FPNG, Richland Dam, 4 May 2014	Julie Wheeler
29	Green Heron, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 19 May 2014	Doug Backlund
30	Turkey Vulture	Robin Nieto
31	Northern Harrier nest, FPNG, Richland Wildlife Area, 1 July 2008	Carol Erickson
32	Northern Goshawk	Dan Svingen
33	Ferruginous Hawk	Rick L. Bohn
34	Virginia Rail, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 27 May 2014	Doug Backlund
35	Sora, FPNG, South Lake Flat Dam, 8 August 2014	Dan Svingen
36	American Avocet, FPNG, Mueller Dam, 19 July 2014	Dan Svingen
37	Semipalmated Plover	Doug Backlund
38	Solitary Sandpiper, FPNG, Cottonwood Dam, 2 September 2014	Dan Svingen
39	Upland Sandpiper	Kelly Krabbenhoft
40	Long-billed Curlew, near FPNG's Richland Wildlife Area, 20 May 2014	Doug Backlund
41	Baird's Sandpiper	USFWS
42	Semipalmated Sandpiper	David Lambeth
43	Wilson's Phalarope nest, FPNG, Cookstove Alkali Pasture, 30 May 1999	Carol Erickson
44	Black Tern, FPNG, Mueller Dam, 19 July 2014	Dan Svingen
45	Mourning Dove nest, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 21 August 2014	Dan Svingen
46	Barn Owl, FPNG, Richland Dam, 13 May 2006	Doug Backlund
47	Eastern Screech-owl, FPNG, Nels ¾ Pasture, 29 February 2008	Doug Backlund
48	Long-eared Owl, FPNG, IT #25 Pasture, 27 July 2012	Kelly Fuoss
49	Northern Saw-whet Owl, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 20 November 2014	Dan Svingen
50	Lewis's Woodpecker, FPNG, Number Two Southeast and Summit West Pastures, 27 May 2012	Brad Bolduan
51	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 6 October 2015	Dan Svingen

52	Gyr Falcon, FPNG	Doug Backlund
53	Olive-sided Flycatcher, FPNG, Cottonwood Dam, 2 September 2014	Dan Svingen
54	Least Flycatcher, FPNG, Knoblock Dam, 27 May 2015	Dan Svingen
55	Eastern Kingbird	Gary Foli
56	Loggerhead Shrike	Bob Gress
57	Warbling Vireo	Bob Gress
58	Red-eyed Vireo	Bob Gress
59	Northern Rough-winged Swallows, FPNG, Richland Dam, 20 July 2014	Dan Svingen
60	Barn Swallows, FPNG, Countyline #18 Pasture, 16 July 2014	Dan Svingen
61	Red-breasted Nuthatch, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 11 September 2014	Dan Svingen
62	Winter Wren, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 9 October 2015	Dan Svingen
63	Sedge Wren, FPNG, Bower Dam, 14 May 2014	Doug Backlund
64	Ruby-crowned Kinglet, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 6 October 2015	Dan Svingen
65	Gray-cheeked Thrush, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 15 May 2014	Doug Backlund
66	Hermit Thrush, FPNG, S. Lake Flat Dam, 27 April 2015	Dan Svingen
67	Northern Mockingbird, FPNG, Richland Dam, 27 May 2014	Doug Backlund
68	Sprague's Pipit, FPNG, Richland East Pasture, 30 August 2009	Doug Backlund
69	Cedar Waxwing	Gary Foli
70	McCown's Longspur, FPNG, Antelope Creek South Pasture, 15 April 2007	Doug Backlund
71	Northern Waterthrush, near FPNG's Richland SW Pasture, 15 May 2014	Doug Backlund
72	Black-and-white Warbler, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 15 May 2014	Doug Backlund
73	Common Yellowthroat	Doug Backlund
74	Magnolia Warbler, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 15 May 2014	Doug Backlund
75	Blackpoll, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 15 May 2014	Doug Backlund
76	Palm Warbler, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 20 May 2014	Doug Backlund
77	Yellow-breasted Chat, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 20 May 2014	Doug Backlund
78	Chipping Sparrow	Dave Herr, USFS
79	Field Sparrow, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 30 September 2015	Dan Svingen
80	Lark Bunting	Doug Backlund
81	Grasshopper Sparrow nest, FPNG, Number Two SW Pasture, 12 July 2014	Dan Svingen
82	Baird's Sparrow, FPNG, American Creek Middle Pasture, 9	Dan Svingen

	May 2013	
83	Henslow's Sparrow, FPNG, Number Two SW Pasture, 12 July 2014	Dan Svingen
84	Fox Sparrow, near FPNG's Williams Pasture, 11 October 2004	Doug Backlund
85	Song Sparrow, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 21 August 2014	Dan Svingen
86	Harris's Sparrow	Leona Hauge
87	Northern Cardinal, near FPNG's Sheriff Dam, 30 August 2014	Dan Svingen
88	Rose-breasted Grosbeak, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 15 May 2014	Doug Backlund
89	Lazuli Bunting	Kelly Krabbenhoft
90	Dickcissel, FPNG, Bomber South Pasture, 4 July 2006	Doug Backlund
91	Bobolink, FPNG, Mueller A Pasture, 19 July 2014	Dan Svingen
92	Rusty Blackbird, near FPNG's Bad River $\frac{3}{4}$ Pasture, 10 November 2015	Ruben Mares
93	Common Grackle, FPNG, Cookstove Shelterbelt, 22 June 2014	Dan Svingen
94	Orchard Oriole, FPNG, Sheriff Dam, 13 July 2015	Dan Svingen
95	Gray-crowned Rosy-finch, near FPNG's Cookstove Pasture, 15 November 2012	Lynn Barber
96	Hoary Redpoll, near FPNG's Butte Smith Pasture, 20 January 2009	Doug Backlund
97	Ruben Mares showing grouse blind, FPNG	Dan Svingen
98	Locations of specific birding sites described in this document	Kelly Fuoss
99	Map showing vicinity of Cookstove, Richland, and Sheriff Dams	Kelly Fuoss
100	Looking north to Cookstove Shelterbelt, FPNG	Dan Svingen
101	Entrance into Richland Dam Recreation Site, FPNG	Dan Svingen
102	Entrance into Sheriff Dam Recreation Site, FPNG	Dan Svingen
103	Looking northerly along Sheriff Shelterbelt, FPNG	Dan Svingen
104	A barking Black-tailed Prairie Dog	Kelly Krabbenhoft
105	Map showing vicinity of Forest Service Roads 206, 206A, 251, and 251A	Kelly Fuoss
106	Looking northwesterly from beginning of Forest Service Road 206.	Dan Svingen
107	Black-tailed Prairie Dog Colony along Forest Service Road 206	Dan Svingen
108	Map of vicinity of Forest Service Road 224	Kelly Fuoss
109	Looking northwesterly along Forest Service Road 224 from Richland East Pasture into Richland Southwest Pasture,	Dan Svingen

	FPNG	
110	War Creek Dam, FPNG	Dan Svingen
111	Looking west to east entrance of Forest Service Road 227, FPNG	Dan Svingen
112	Map showing vicinity of Forest Service Road 227	Kelly Fuoss
113	East entrance to W. Engen Pasture along Forest Service Road 227, FPNG	Dan Svingen
114	East entrance to Stockton Middle Pasture along Forest Service Road 227, FPNG	Dan Svingen
115	Looking north to south entrance of Forest Service Road 227. Note playa in background, FPNG	Dan Svingen
116	Map of Mueller Dam vicinity	Kelly Fuoss
117	Playa in Mueller A Pasture, FPNG	Dan Svingen
118	Mueller Dam, FPNG	Dan Svingen
119	Map of Reed Ranch vicinity	Kelly Fuoss
120	Looking northwesterly across Reed Ranch Dam to Reed Ranch Shelterbelt, FPNG	Dan Svingen
121	Reed Ranch Shelterbelt, FPNG	Dan Svingen

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APPENDIX 1

Table Appendix 1. Latitude/longitude coordinates of selected sites. NAD 83.

SITE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
Alkali Alkali Seasonal Emergent Wetland	44.194866	-100.234695
Alkali Middle Shelterbelt	44.207539	-100.229048
Alkali West Shelterbelt	44.184219	-100.284218
Bower Dam trees	44.049774	-100.227737
Cookstove Shelterbelt	44.210369	-100.366539
Cottonwood Dam	44.0801	-100.2232
Cut Off Winter Shelterbelt	44.057487	-100.315887
Forest Service Road 206, eastern end	44.238308	-100.124458
Forest Service Road 226A, southern end	43.999566	-100.425888
Forest Service Road 227, eastern end	43.998373	-100.326716
Forest Service Road 251, eastern end	44.2527758	-100.144882
Grange Hall Dam	44.183926	-100.127892
Grouse Ridge South Shelterbelt	44.158947	-100.119263
Lower Booth Dam	44.002815	-100.375833
Monument Dam	44.0310	-100.3986
Mueller Dam	44.004667	-100.425127
Mueller Playa	44.002113	-100.428131
Reed Ranch Dam	44.0940	-100.1590
Reed Ranch Shelterbelt	44.103268	-100.167572
Richland Shelterbelt	44.148399	-100.407013
Sheriff Shelterbelt	44.109451	-100.425888
South Lake Flat Dam	44.0710	-100.3450
Stockton Middle Pasture, East Gate	44.009625	-100.385977
Stony Butte Butte Pasture Riparian Trees	44.056603	-100.288005
Triangle Pasture Shelterbelt	44.048220	-100.328869
Upper Booth Dam	44.005642	-100.387665
War Creek Dam	44.134285	-100.414055
West Bad River Big Pasture playa	44.203312	-100.435493

APPENDIX 2

Table Appendix 2. All known records of selected bird species from the checklist area. Note: Loggerhead Shrike records are from or after the year 2000 only.

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	SOURCE
American Bittern	14 June 1987	Richland Dam	1	Richard Peterson
American Bittern	11 Sept. 1991	Mallard Dam	1	Glenn Moravek
American Bittern	25 June 1993	Sheriff Dam	1	Glenn Moravek
American Bittern	1 July 1993	Richland Dam	1	Doug Backlund
American Bittern	1 July 1993	Sheriff Dam	1	Doug Backlund
American Bittern	18 Sept. 1993	Cedar Creek Miller	1	Glenn Moravek
American Bittern	16 Oct. 1993	Grange Hall SE	1	Glenn Moravek
American Bittern	16 Oct. 1993	Reed Ranch Southeast	1	Glenn Moravek
American Bittern	26 July 1994	Butte South	Fledgling	CE (district files), Les Weverstad (CE pers. knowledge)
American Bittern	30 May 1995	Chester Winter	1 pair	CE
American Bittern	16 May 1996	Reed Ranch Southeast	1	CE
American Bittern	17 July 1997	West Bad River Road	1 pair	CE
American Bittern	12 May 1998	Near Grass Creek #1	1	Glenn Moravek
American Bittern	26 Aug. 1998	Number Two SW	1	Carol Erickson
American Bittern	30 Aug. 1998	Chester Middle (pond on the west side)	1	Glenn Moravek
American Bittern	21 May 1999	Intersection of 296 Ave. and County Line Road	1	CE, Kelly Phillips
American	25 May 1999	West Bad River	1 vocalizing	CE

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	SOURCE
Bittern		Big		
American Bittern	6 June 2000	Sheriff Dam	flying	CE
American Bittern	10 June 2000	Antelope Creek	1	Glenn Moravek (district files)
American Bittern	2 Oct. 2006	Alkalie West Dam	2	Ryan Cumbow (district files)
American Bittern	29 July 2008	County Line #19		RM
American Bittern	7 Oct. 2008	Corral Flat South Home	1	RM, Kelly Phillips
American Bittern	4 June 2009	Near Gould Dam	1	Glenn Moravek (Drilling 2014)
American Bittern	23 June 2009	Sheriff Dam	1	RM
American Bittern	5 June 2014	Mueller A	2	RM, DNS
American Bittern	16 Sept. 2014	Mueller A, at Mueller's Dam	1	Ryan Cumbow
Baird's Sparrow	May 1978	T108, R79, Sec. 9	1	SDGFP database
Baird's Sparrow	June, July 1997	T107N, R78W, Sections 7-9; this would include the Little Cedar Brangus Cow and East Engen Pastures.	Numerous singing birds	Shawn Fritcher, SD Bird Notes: 49:98
Baird's Sparrow	9 May 2013	American Creek Middle	1, photographed	DNS
Baird's Sparrow	9 May 2013	American Creek North	1	DNS
Baird's Sparrow	5 May 2014	Little Cedar Brangus Cow	1	RM, DNS
Baird's Sparrow	1 Aug. 1997	Reservation Road Fall	1 singing	Glenn Moravek
Baird's Sparrow	5 Aug. 1997	Camp Flat EN	1 singing	Glenn Moravek
Black Tern	19 July 1993	Mallard Dam	1	Doug Backlund, SDGFP Database
Black Tern	25 May 1994	Bower Dam	3	Glenn Moravek, CE

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	SOURCE
Black Tern	25 May 1994	T2, R78, Sec. 21	10	Glenn Moravek (district files)
Black Tern	31 May 1994	Richland East War Creek Dam	4	Glenn Moravek, CE
Black Tern	16 May 1995	Near Grass Creek #1	1	Glenn Moravek
Black Tern	11 Aug. 1995	Sheriff Dam	6	Glenn Moravek
Black Tern	24 May 1996	American Creek Middle	1	CE
Black Tern	17 July 1997	West Bad River Road	1	CE
Black Tern	24 May 2000	Dry Hole 1/2 South Section	2	Unknown
Black Tern	2 July 2000	Lookout South	Number not recorded	Glenn Moravek
Black Tern	19 July 2000	Mallard Dam	Number not recorded	Glenn Moravek
Black Tern	13 July 2001	Mallard Dam	1 on floating debris	Glenn Moravek
Black Tern	19 June 2006	Sheriff Dam	5	Glenn Moravek (district files)
Black Tern	20 May 2008	Smith Dam	6	Glenn Moravek
Black Tern	21 May 2008	Timber Creek Cactus Flat	8	CE, Kelly Phillips
Black Tern	5 June 2014	Mueller Dam	3	RM, DNS
Black Tern	19 July 2014	Mueller Dam	1, one-year old bird	RM, DNS
Black Tern	27 Aug. 2014	Mueller Dam	10	DNS, Scott Stolz, Paul Baicich
Black Tern	23 May 2015	Cookstove Dam	1	DNS
Black Tern	23 May 2015	Trout Dam	1	DNS
Black Tern	30 May 2015	Sheriff Dam	4	DNS
Loggerhead Shrike	14 Aug. 2002	Ditch Creek NE	Flying along road	CE
Loggerhead Shrike	13 April 2004	Kennedy Allotment	Along FSR 210	Doug Backlund
Loggerhead Shrike	1 June 2014	Private land near Antelope Creek South along County		DNS

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	SOURCE
		Line Road		
Loggerhead Shrike	25 Aug. 2014	Along 299 Ave. about 0.5 mile south of IT #28		DNS, RM
Loggerhead Shrike	30 May 2015	Sheriff Dam	1 on utility wire	DNS
Loggerhead Shrike	1 Sept. 2015	Cookstove Shelterbelt	0.2 mile east of trees along War Creek Road	DNS
Loggerhead Shrike	25 May 2014	Timber Creek North	Active nest, food-carrying adults	Doug Backlund
Loggerhead Shrike	2 Sept. 2015	Richland Dam	At entrance to site	DNS
Long-billed Curlew	26 April 1992	Cedar Creek Indian	1	Unknown observer (district files)
Long-billed Curlew	8 April 2007	Fort Pierre National Grassland	In flight, no specific location given	Doug Backlund
Long-billed Curlew	24 June 1992	Private property east of Timber Creek Home	1	Richard Peterson
Long-billed Curlew	3 May 1994	West Bad River Gould Dam	1 feeding	Jack Isaacs
Long-billed Curlew	3 May 1994	West Bad River Road	1 feeding	Jack Isaacs
Long-billed Curlew	19 May 1996	Section west of Nels 3/4	1	Shawn Fritcher
Long-billed Curlew	18 April 1999	Nels Three-quarters	Flying along south fence	CE
Long-billed Curlew	3 May 2006	FSR 210; T1N, R31E, Sec. 21	2	Corey Huxoll
Long-billed Curlew	3 May 2006	T1N, R31E, Sec. 21	2	Cory Huxoll (district files)
Long-billed Curlew	20 May 2014	Near Richland Wildlife Area	1, photographed	Doug Backlund
Long-billed Curlew	23 June 2008	Near A1 Pasture on private property	1	Glenn Moravek
Long-billed Curlew	6 June 2009	Private property north	1	CE, Kelly Fuoss

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	SOURCE
		of Stockton North		
Long-billed Curlew	1 May 2012	Stockton Middle	1	RM
Long-billed Curlew	17 April 2014	Private property north of Mueller B	1	RM
Long-billed Curlew	24 June 2015	Horsethief East	2 males, 1 female. Site was burned on 1 June 2015	DNS
Sprague's Pipit	30 Aug. 2009	Richland East	1, photographed	Doug Backlund
Sprague's Pipit	28 April 1995	Prairie Hills South	Singing	Glenn Moravek (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	4 May 1995	Little Cedar #3	Singing	CE (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	10 May 1995	Sioux East	Singing	CE (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	7 May 1997	American Creek NW	Singing	Glenn Moravek (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	7 May 1997	Ditch Creek West-South	Singing	Glenn Moravek (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	7 May 1997	East Engen	Singing	Glenn Moravek (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	7 May 1997	Little Cedar #3	Singing	CE (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	7 May 1997	Little Cedar #4	Singing	CE (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	29 July 1997	Brangus Cow	Singing	CE (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	19 May 1997 to 2 Aug. 1997	Little Cedar Brangus Cow	Numerous singing	Shawn Fritcher, SD Bird Notes: 49:98
Sprague's Pipit	19 May 1997 to 2 Aug. 1997	T107N, R78W, Sec. 16	Numerous singing	Shawn Fritcher, SD Bird Notes: 49:98
Sprague's Pipit	19 May 1997 to 2 Aug. 1997	T107N, R78W, Sec. 17	Numerous singing	Shawn Fritcher, SD Bird Notes: 49:98
Sprague's Pipit	28 April 2003	Little Cedar #3	Singing	Glenn Moravek (district files)
Sprague's Pipit	26 Sept. 2004	Richland East	50 birds	Doug Backlund
Sprague's Pipit	2 Oct. 2006	W. Bad River Big		CE, Tim Iron Thunder (district files)

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	SOURCE
Sprague's Pipit	21 May 2011	Antelope Creek South	On prairie dog colony	Doug Burri (Drilling 2014)
Sprague's Pipit	1 Oct. 2011	Forest Service Road 224	9, photographed	Richard Latuchie & Lynn Barber, eBird database
Sprague's Pipit	12 April 2014	Cut-off Home	Migrant?	DNS
Sprague's Pipit	9 Sept. 2014	FS 224	eBird Database	Scott Stolz
Sprague's Pipit	16 Sept. 2015	Stockton South	Prairie dog colony	DNS
Sprague's Pipit	30 Sept. 2015	Far West	At western stockpond	DNS
Sprague's Pipit	9 Sept. 2008	Brule Main	3	CE
Sprague's Pipit	30 Sept. 2015	Far West	2	DNS
Sprague's Pipit	1 Oct. 2015	Prairie Hills North	1	DNS
Whooping Crane	28-29 Oct. 1982	West Bad River Big		SDGFP database
Whooping Crane	29 Oct. 1982	West Bad River Big	1	Maurice E. Anderson. USFWS database
Whooping Crane	26-27 Oct. 1983	Reservation Road Winter	Grass Creek	SDGFP database
Whooping Crane	22 Nov. 1983	Grass Creek, T109N, R79W, Sec. 26.	5 birds	SDGFP database
Whooping Crane	22 Nov. 1983	Grass Creek #1	5	M.E. Anderson. USFWS database
Whooping Crane	29 Oct. 1997		3 birds flying. This record may pertain to 1 adult and possibly 2 juveniles seen by CE over Kennedy Winter Pasture (district files)	SDGFP database
Whooping Crane	29 Oct. 1997	Wells North	3	Wally Jobman, USFWS database
Whooping Crane	22 Oct. 2003	Number Two, Southwest	12-13 birds. Not confirmed	CE
Whooping Crane	29 Oct. 2003		1 adult in Lyman County,	SDGFP database

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	SOURCE
			about 21 miles south of Ft. Pierre	
Whooping Crane	29 Oct. 2003	Kennedy Winter	1 adult & 2 immatures with 30 Sandhill Cranes	CE (district files) and CE (pers. know.)
Whooping Crane	17 April 2012		Southern Stanley County, USGS marked bird	SDGFP database
Whooping Crane	17 April 2014	Brule Pasture	Near stockpond, satellite-tagged bird	Matthew Gonnerman, USDI Fish and Wildlife Service, pers. comm.

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